The Brains and Brawn of the Women of the Fourth Quarter!

HEAVY

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...y magazine

RETAILER DISPLAY UNTIL JANUARY 18, 1990

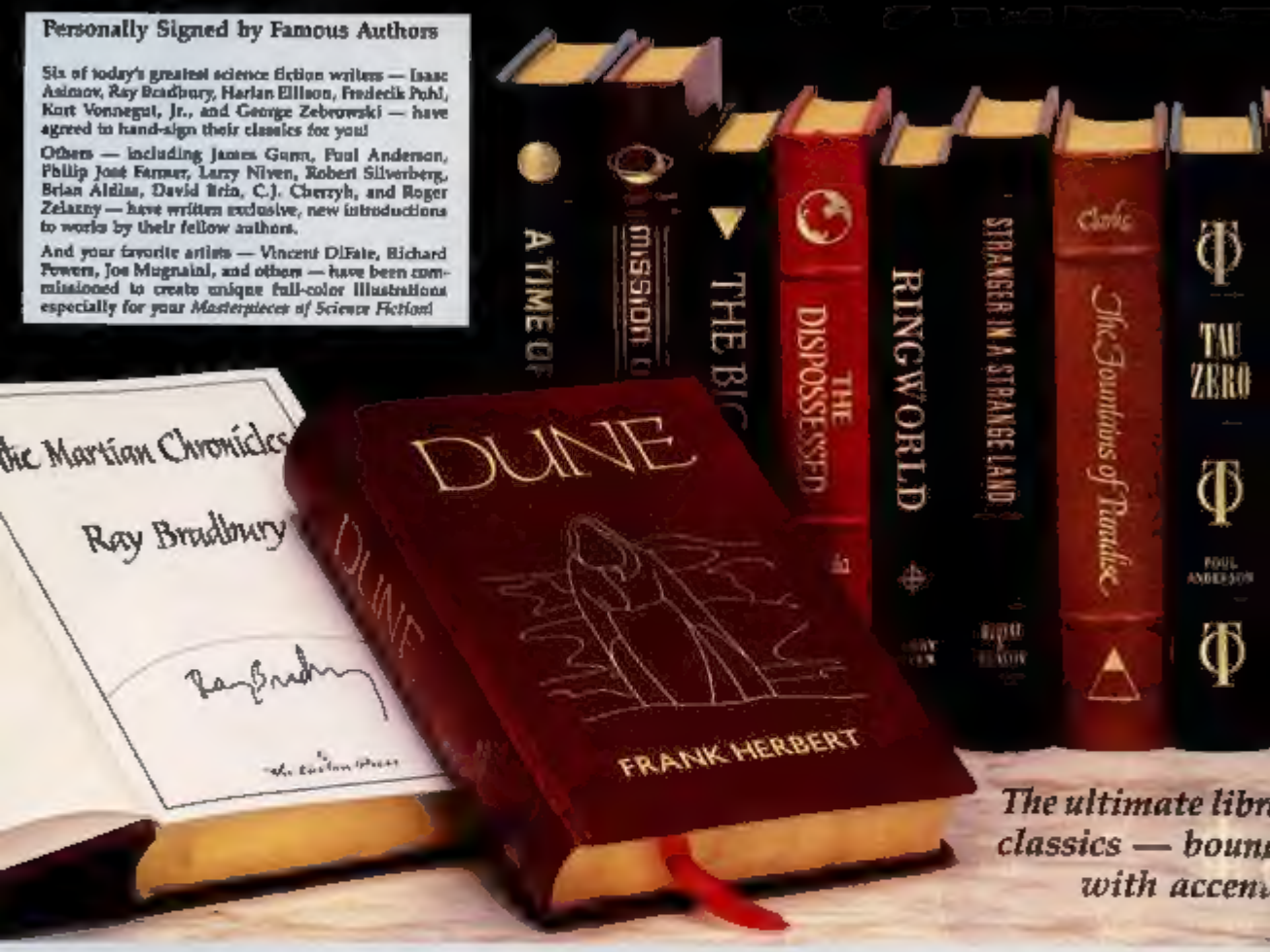
MASTERPIECES OF

Personally Signed by Famous Authors

Six of today's greatest science fiction writers — Isaac Asimov, Ray Bradbury, Harlan Ellison, Frederik Pohl, Kurt Vonnegut, Jr., and George Zebrowski — have agreed to hand-sign their classics for you!

Others — including James Gunn, Poul Anderson, Philip José Farmer, Larry Niven, Robert Silverberg, Brian Aldiss, David Brin, C.J. Cherryh, and Roger Zelazny — have written exclusive, new introductions to works by their fellow authors.

And your favorite artists — Vincent DiFate, Richard Powers, Joe Mugnaini, and others — have been commissioned to create unique full-color illustrations especially for your *Masterpieces of Science Fiction!*



The ultimate libr
classics — boun
with accen

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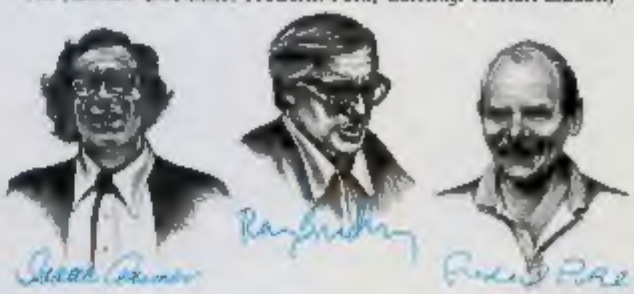

Deathbird Stories. Kurt Vonnegut, Jr., *The Sirens of Titan.* George Zebrowski, *Macrolife.* These extraordinary volumes will surely be among your most prized possessions. (And due to their limited supply, you should act promptly to avoid disappointment.)

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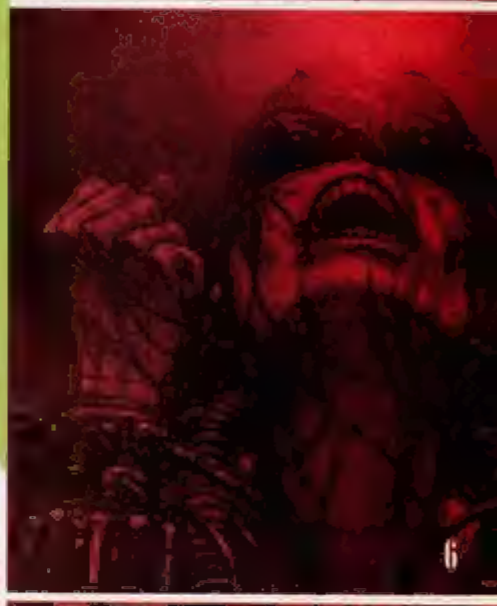
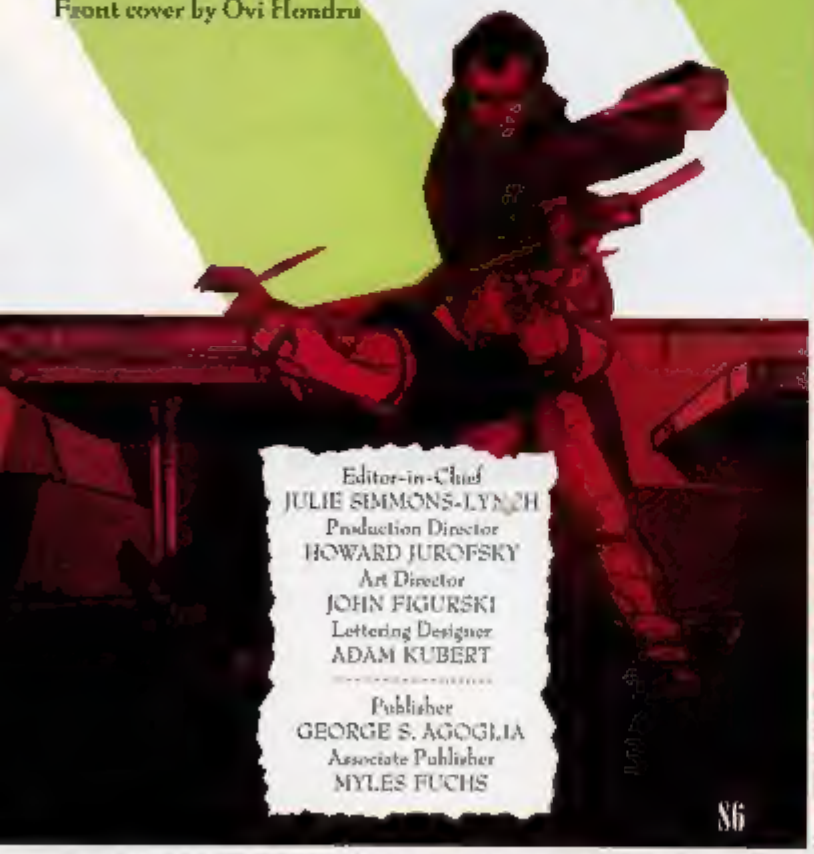
CONTENTS

HEAVY METAL · JANUARY 1990 · VOL. XIII, NO. VI

4 Gallery
6 The Fourth Quarter, by Juan Gimenez
70 Linen's Lipstick, by Miguel Angel Prado
80 1881, by Rick Geary
86 Return to the Sea, by Laurent Theureau and Patrick Gallano
93 The New Frontier, by John Sablic and Michael Cherkas
Front cover by Ovi Hendru





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GALLERY

Each year at Christmastime, lavish art books, colorful comics, and hot-shit anthologies fill the stores, tantalizing the Santa's helper in all of us. Oftentimes the selection is so immense, shoppers walk away dazed and empty-handed. That's where we come in.

As a service to you, dear reader, we offer...

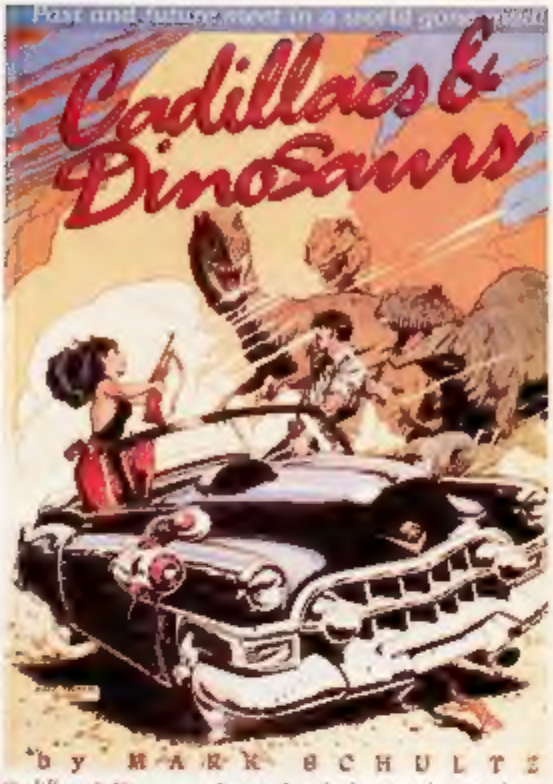
FANTASY'S FINEST

American's Great Comic-Strip Artists, by Richard Marschall (Abbeville, hardcover, $55.00). This magnificent compendium features artists such as Walt Kelly, Al Capp, Milton Caniff, George Herriman, and *HM*'s personal fave, Winsor McCay.

Fires, by Mattotti (Catalan Communications, softbound, $12.95). A magnificent graphic novel of one man's search for paradise.

The Art of Moebius, by Jean Giraud (Beckley and Marvel Comics, softbound, $14.95). The title pretty much says it all—this book combines mostly illustrations with some comic art.

The Eleventh Hour: A Curious Mystery, by Graeme Base (Abrams, hardcover, $14.95). Surreal art coupled with a cryptic, rhyming text combine to make a whodunit!



Cadillacs & Dinosaurs, by Mark Schultz (Kitchen Sink Press, $25.00 signed and numbered hardcover and $12.95 softcover). This 134-page black-and-white graphic novel not only looks great but reads well, too!

The Microverse (Bantam Spectra, hardcover, $29.95). A big ol' book bringing together some of the world's leading physicists and science-fiction authors depicting their visions of the microscopic world. This 352-page book is chock-full of beautiful illustrations.

Visualization: The Second Computer Revolution, by Richard Mark Friedhoff and William Benzon (Abrams, hardcover, $49.50). A big, beautiful book detailing the how, what, and why of computer design and illustration.

The Art of Babar, by Nicholas Fox Weber (Abrams, hardcover, $39.95). The definitive story behind Babar, with never-before-seen paintings.

The Deerbrook of Destiny, by Winslow Pels and Richard Pels (Calico Books, hardcover, $14.95). A wonderfully goofy mystery, featuring a super-sleuth poodle and her companions. Reader participation is invited!

The Book of the Sandman and the Alphabet of Sleep, by Rien Poortvliet and Wil Huygen (Abrams, hardcover, $17.95). The creators of *Gnomes* do it again, with those cute little critters and gnomes illustrating the secret of a good night's sleep.

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I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.

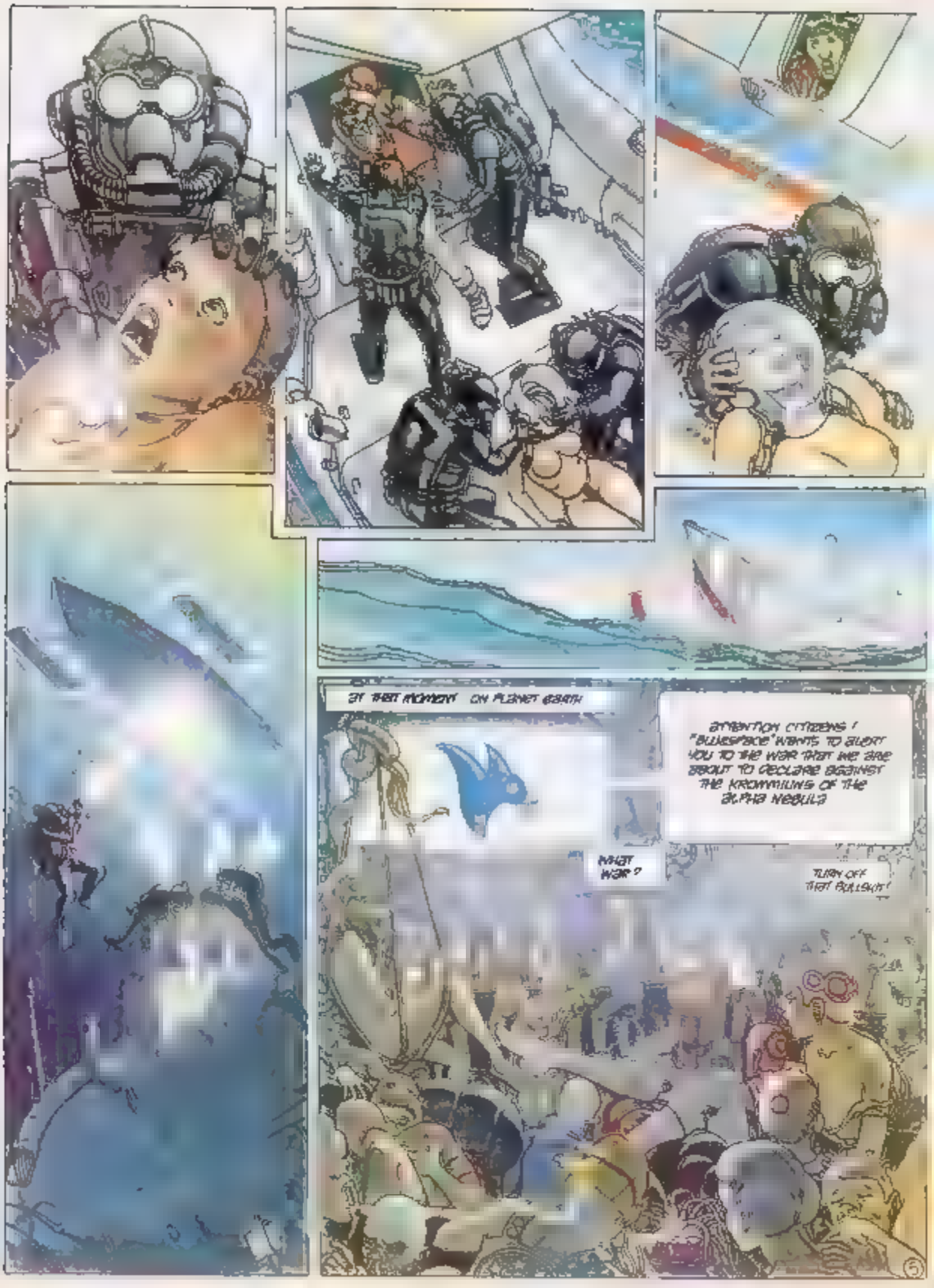
Howard Jarvitsky
Vice President

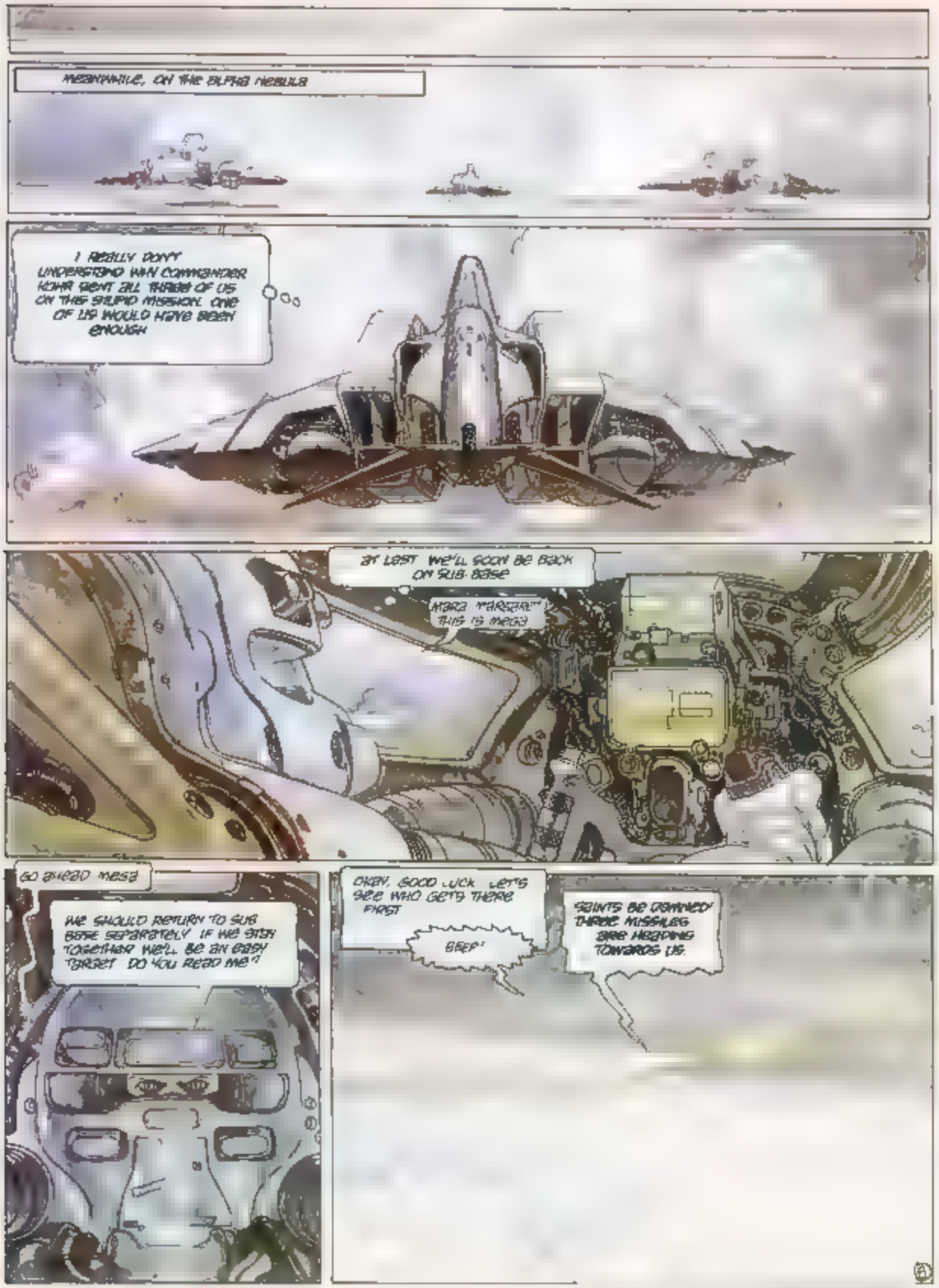
The Fourth Quarter!

ZYTECK!
GRONK!!

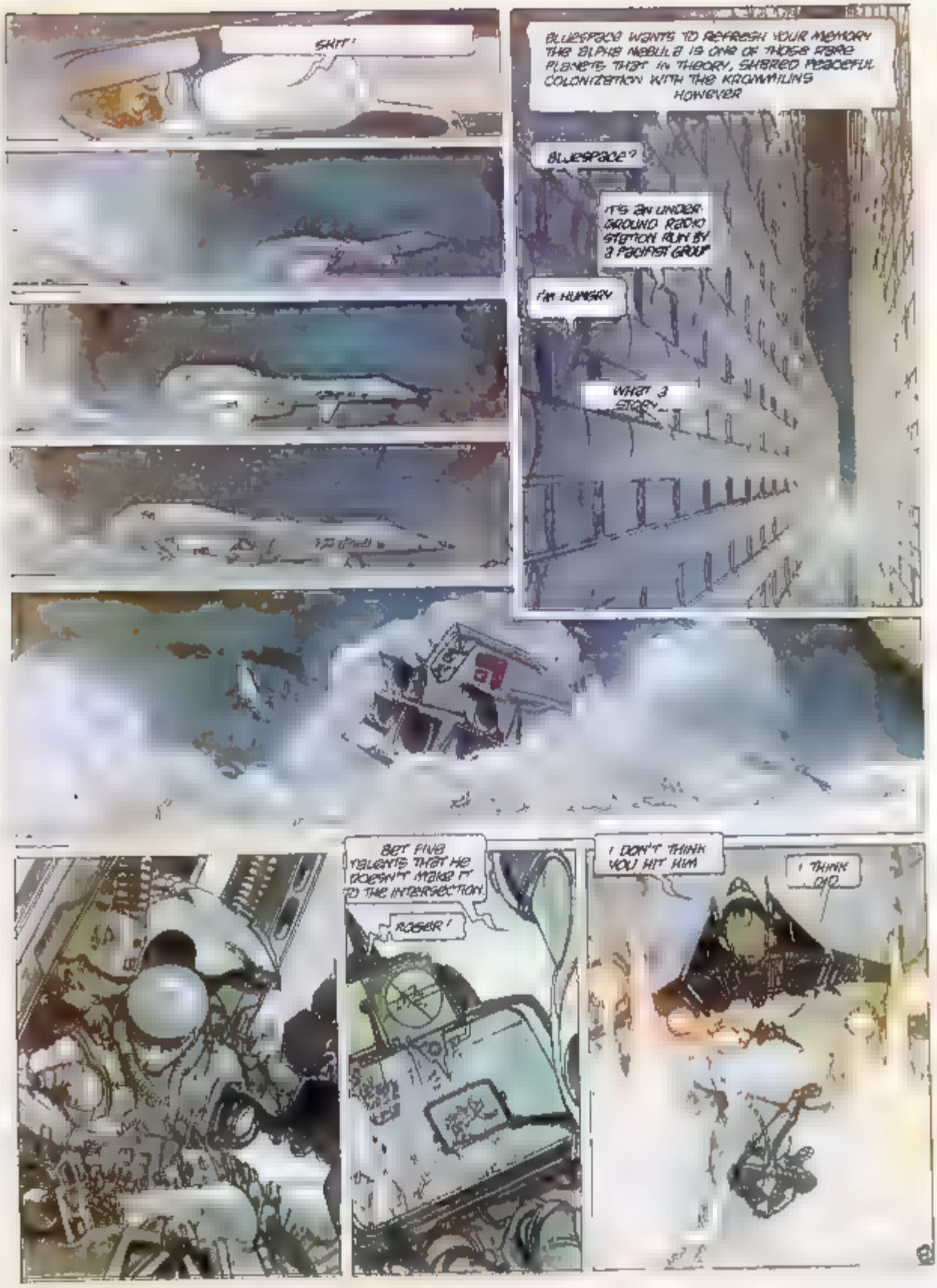
YOU ARE COLLEEN SEGAN!
NO!!
REBOV!

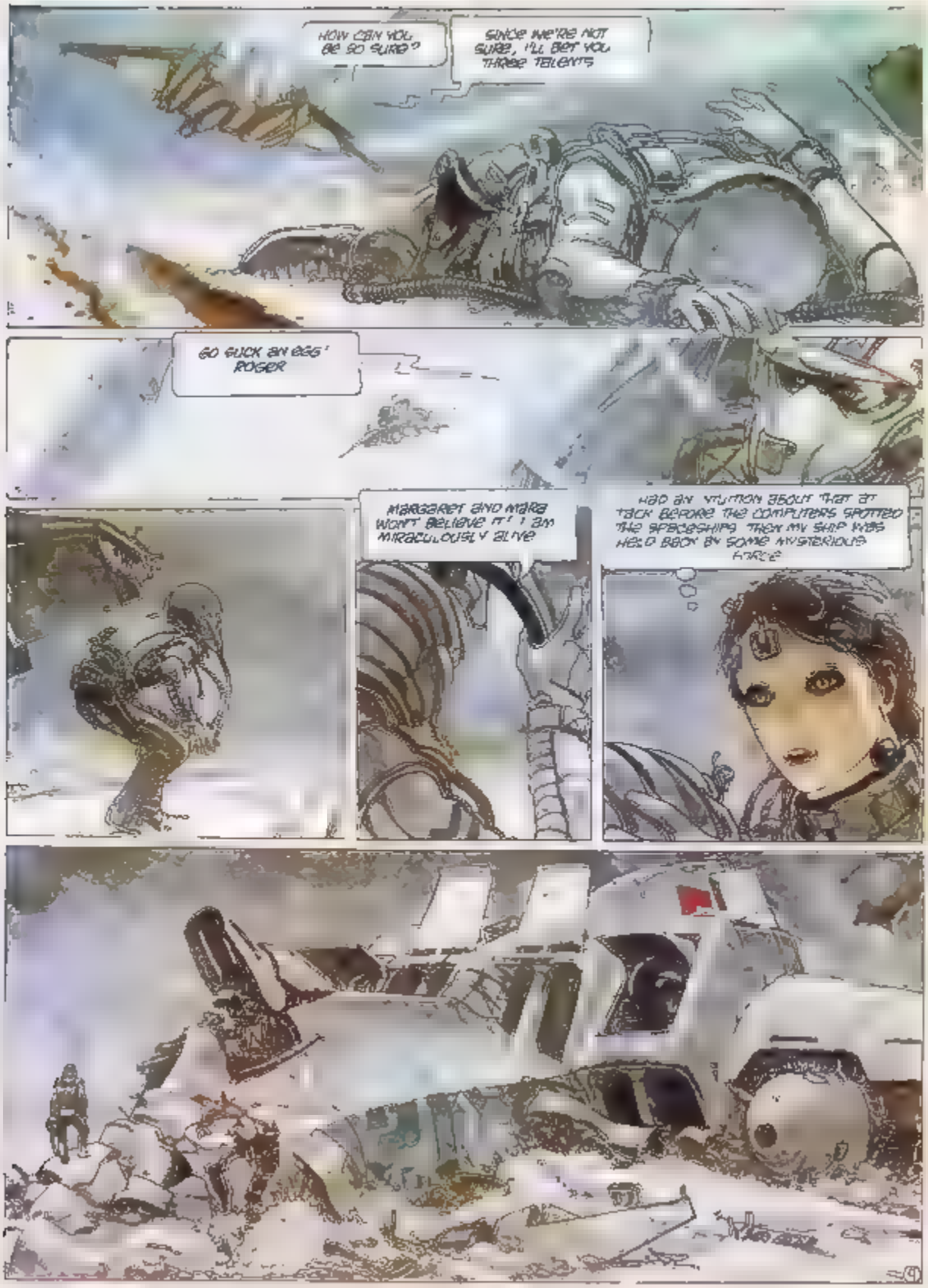
WE'VE LOST CRONIE
ARE YOU SURE NO ONE SAW US ?
NO ONE
YES, THAT'S CYNTHIA CONNERS
WHO ARE YOU ?


AT THAT MOMENT ON PLANET EARTH
ATTENTION CITIZENS ! "BLUESPACE" WANTS TO ALERT YOU TO THE WAR THAT WE ARE ABOUT TO DECLARE AGAINST THE KROMMILINS OF THE ALPHA NEBULA
WHAT WAR ?
TURN OFF THAT BULLSHIT !

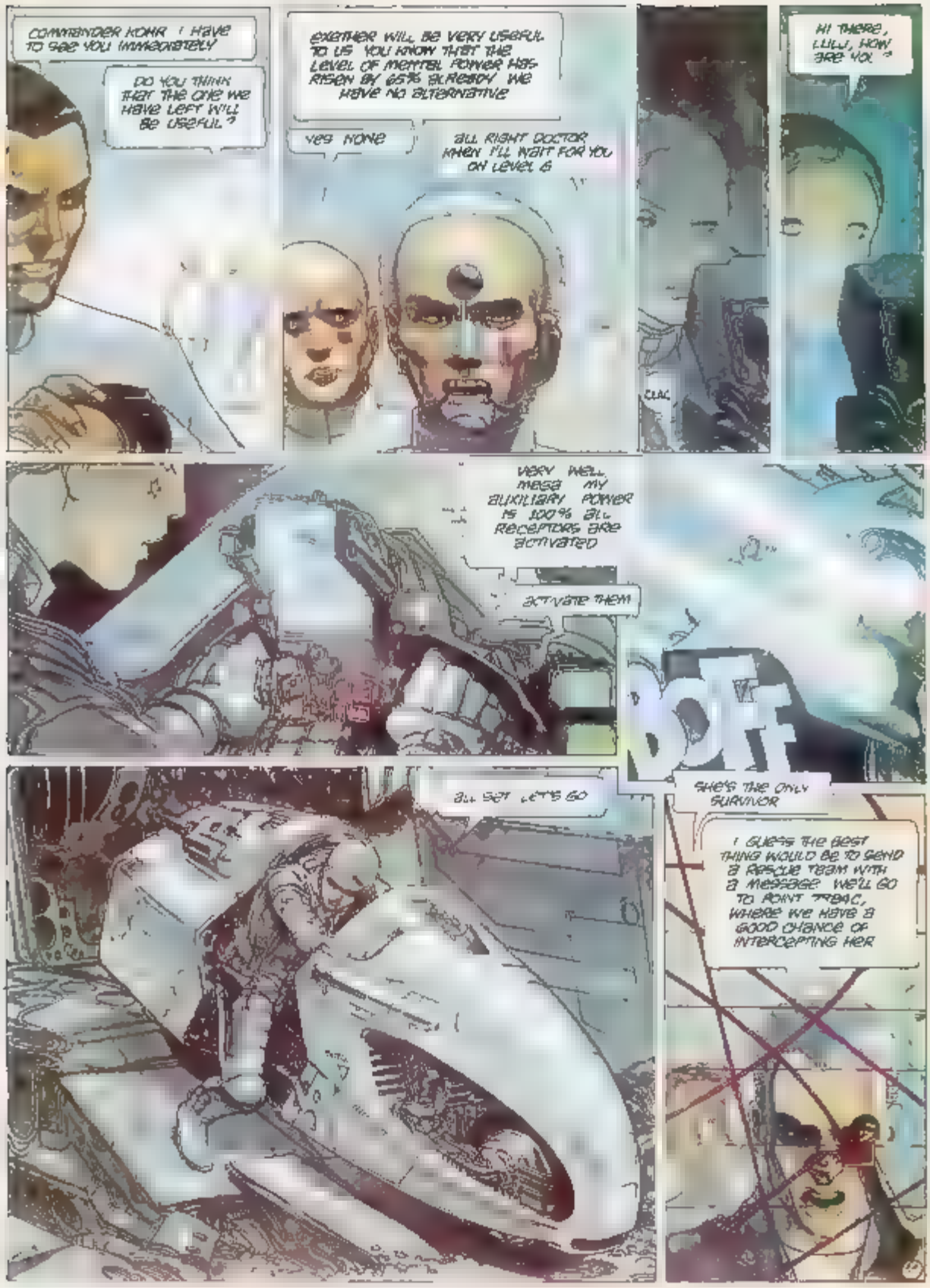

MEANWHILE, ON THE ALPHA NEBULA
I REALLY DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY COMMANDER KOHAR SENT ALL THREE OF US ON THIS STUPID MISSION. ONE OF US WOULD HAVE BEEN ENOUGH
AT LAST WE'LL SOON BE BACK ON SUB-BASE
MAYA MAYDAY! THIS IS MEGA
GO AHEAD MEGA
WE SHOULD RETURN TO SUB BASE SEPARATELY. IF WE STICK TOGETHER WE'LL BE AN EASY TARGET. DO YOU READ ME?
OKAY, GOOD LUCK. LET'S SEE WHO GETS THERE FIRST
BEEP!
SAINTS BE DAMNED! THREE MISSILES ARE HEADING TOWARDS US.

NUMBER 1 NUMBER 2 SHIT! NUMBER 2 HAS DISAPPEARED TEN TALENTS TO WHOMEVER WILL DESTROY NUMBER 2!
OKAY!
I RAISE THE PRIZE TO TWENTY TALENTS. LOOKS LIKE A TOUGH ONE!
OKAY
I'LL HAVE TO CRASH THE COMPUTER IS DOWN!
THE BET IS ANNULLED THAT KRONWILIN IS HEADED FOR A CRASH, LIKE A GOOD LITTLE BOY!
OKAY!


SHIT!
BLUESPACE WANTS TO REFRESH YOUR MEMORY THE BLAKE NEBULA IS ONE OF THOSE RARE PLANETS THAT IN THEORY, SHARED PEACEFUL COLONIZATION WITH THE KROMMILINS HOWEVER
BLUESPACE?
IT'S AN UNDER-GROUND RADIO STATION RUN BY A PACIFIST GROUP
I'M HUNGRY
WHAT A STORY...
BET FIVE YELGANTS THAT HE DOESN'T MAKE IT TO THE INTERSECTION.
ROGER!
I DON'T THINK YOU HIT HIM
I THINK DID


HOW CAN YOU BE SO SURE?
SINCE WE'RE NOT SURE, I'LL BET YOU THREE TELENTS
GO SUCK AN EGG ROGER
MARGARET AND MARK WON'T BELIEVE IT! I AM MIRACULOUSLY ALIVE
HAD AN INTUITION ABOUT THAT AT TACK BEFORE THE COMPUTERS SPOTTED THE SPACESHIPS. THEN MY SHIP WAS HELD BACK BY SOME MYSTERIOUS FORCE

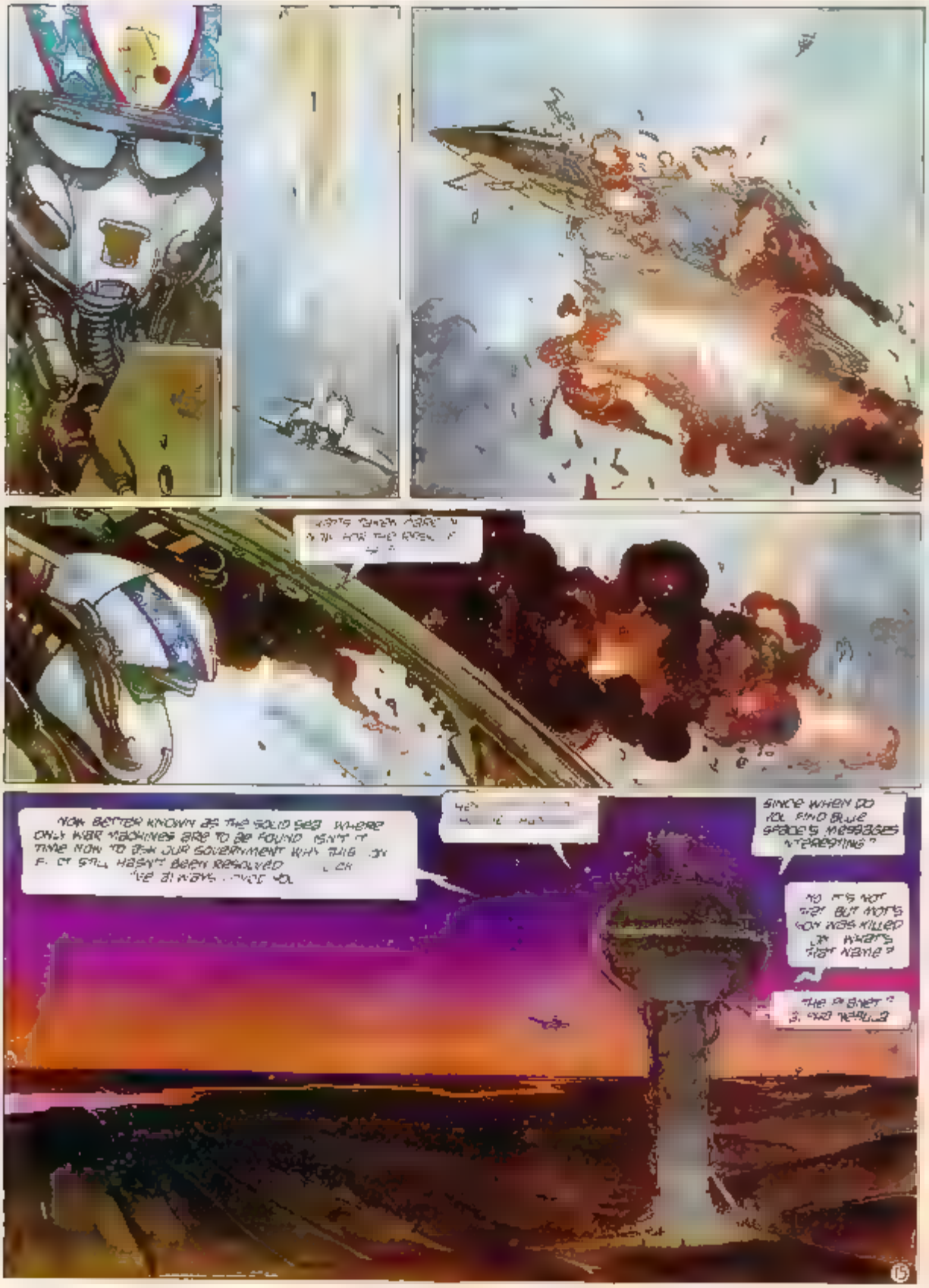
I WANT TO HEAR YOU SAY THAT ALL IS READY AND I WANT TO HEAR YOU SAY THAT NOW !
WE'RE STILL SELECTING OUR SPECIMENS YOU KNOW THAT
I HAVE AN ARMY OF INACTIVE MEN, MEN WHO ARE READY FOR THE FINAL VICTORY AND YOU ARE STILL AT THE SELECTION STAGE !
I ONLY ASK FOR 48 MORE HOURS, VENERABLE SCHORE
YES. ONLY 48 HOURS
I WILL REMAIN ON SUB-BASE UNTIL DOMS. THAT'S ALL THE TIME YOU HAVE LEFT TO COMPLETE THE Q84 UNDER THE DIRECTION OF DOCTOR MOLYTER AND DON'T ADDRESS ME AS VENERABLE
YES SIR
UNTIL DOMS. YOUR REPUTATION AS SCIENTISTS IS AT STAKE
YES SIR
BASTARD !
YOU HEARD WHAT KHEN SAID. WE HAVE TO SPEED UP BROTHER'S RE-TURN. YOU MUST GO LOOK FOR HER IF I LOSE MY SENSE OF SMELL YOU WILL LOSE YOUR HEAD !
YES. SIR !
LET'S GO BERSEK, I'M HUNGRY
YEAH, LET'S EAT


COMMANDER KOHR ! HAVE TO SEE YOU IMMEDIATELY
DO YOU THINK THAT THE ONE WE HAVE LEFT WILL BE USEFUL ?
EXETHER WILL BE VERY USEFUL TO US YOU KNOW THAT THE LEVEL OF MENTAL POWER HAS RISEN BY 65% SUDDENLY WE HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE
YES NONE
ALL RIGHT DOCTOR WHEN I'LL WAIT FOR YOU ON LEVEL 6
CLAC
HI THERE, LILLI, HOW ARE YOU ?
VERY WELL MASSA MY AUXILIARY POWER IS 100% ALL RECEPTORS ARE ACTIVATED
ACTIVATE THEM
ALL SET LET'S GO
SHE'S THE ONLY SURVIVOR
I GUESS THE BEST THING WOULD BE TO SEND A RESCUE TEAM WITH A MESSAGE WE'LL GO TO POINT TRIAC, WHERE WE HAVE A GOOD CHANCE OF INTERCEPTING HER

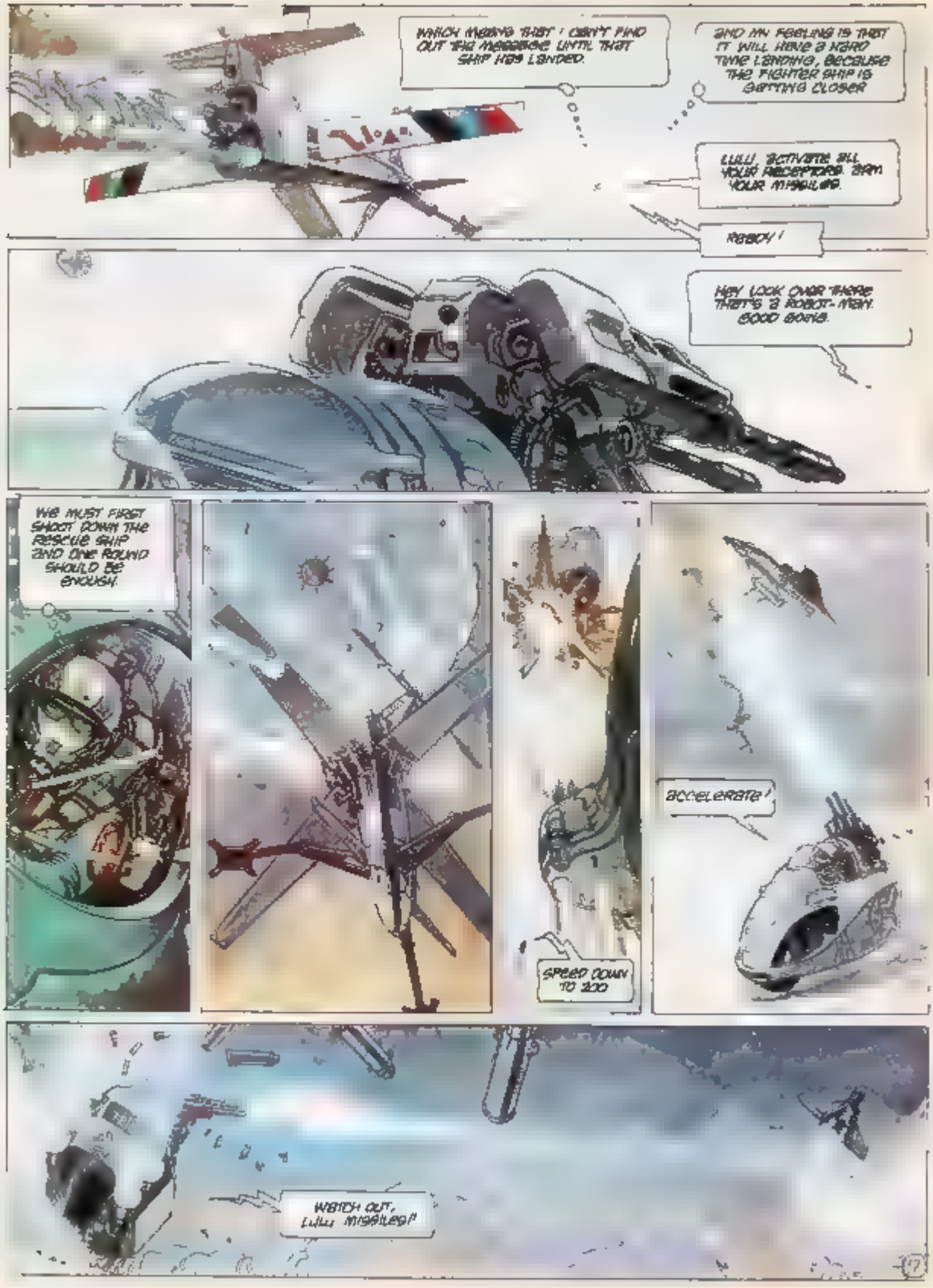
LULU SET OFF THE SELF DESTRUCTION DEVICE ON THE SHIP IT MUST DESTROY ITSELF IN THREE MINUTES
ALL RIGHT MEGA
THE FEWER TRACES I LEAVE BEHIND ME THE BETTER
IN THREE MINUTES THE SHIP WILL EXPLODE
GO TOWARD POINT 79840 COORDINATES AND AT SPEED 3800 IT 300.
ALL RIGHT MEGA

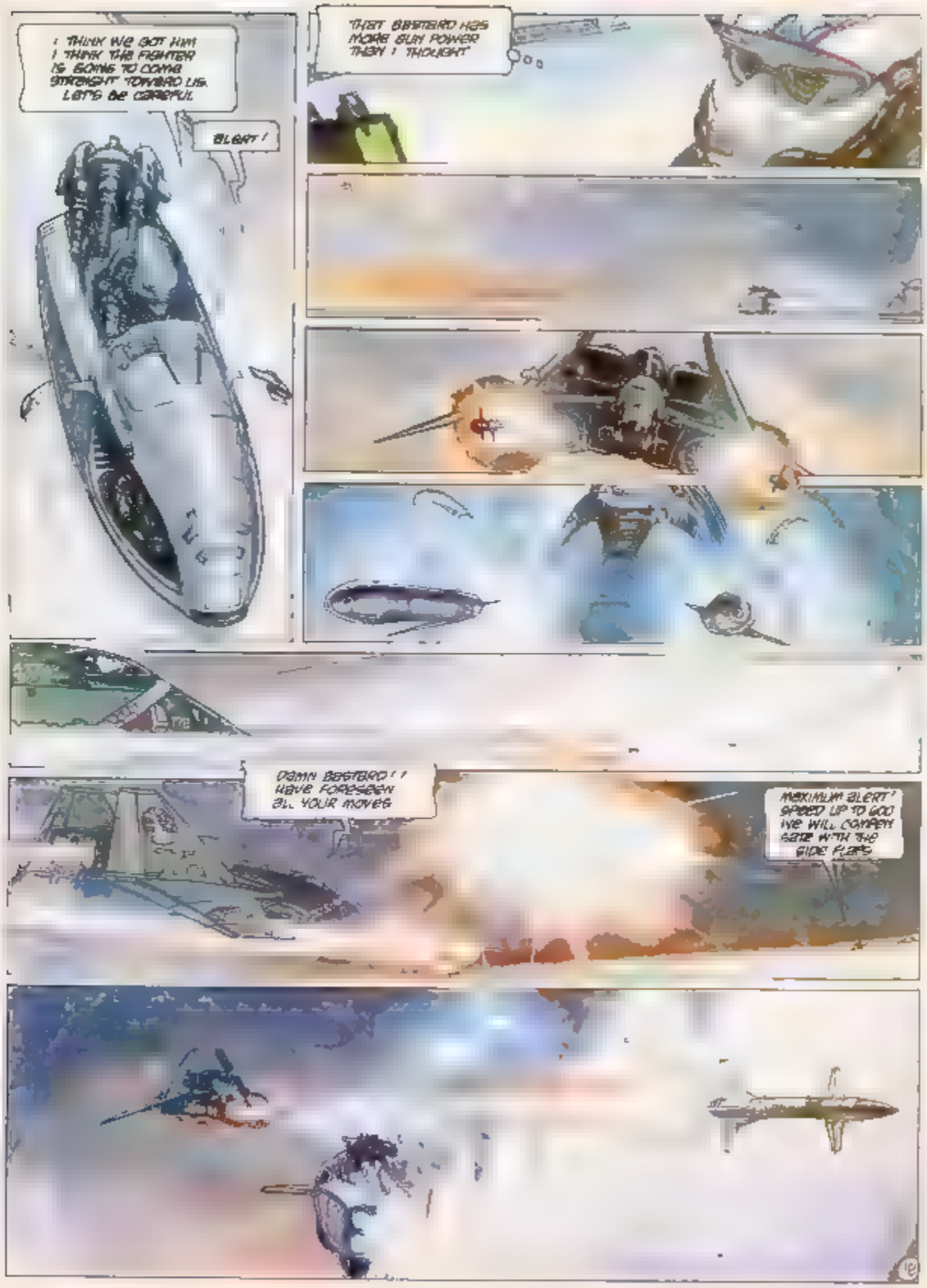
WE SHOULD SEE HIM, BECAUSE FOR THE LAST ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY TWO YEARS IT HAS BEEN PATROLLING DESTROYING ANY ONE INVADING ENEMY BATTLE SHIP THAT DARES HAS SEEN MORE THAN ALSO M... IN SQUIRE
OWNER'S REAR
THERMONUCLEAR BOMBS DROPPED BY OUR FLEET WHICH HAVE TRANSFORMED IT IN AN OCEAN OF INCALCULABLE RICHNESS BUT COMPLETELY UNUSABLE
HAVE A PARASITE IN MY SYSTEM CAN'T SEE ANYTHING
THERE IT IS
IT'S ONLY A RESCUE SHIP ON AUTO PILOT
YES IT'S SOME SORT OF SHIP-ROBOT
LET'S SHOOT CAPS AT IT I'LL WAGER FIVE TALENTS

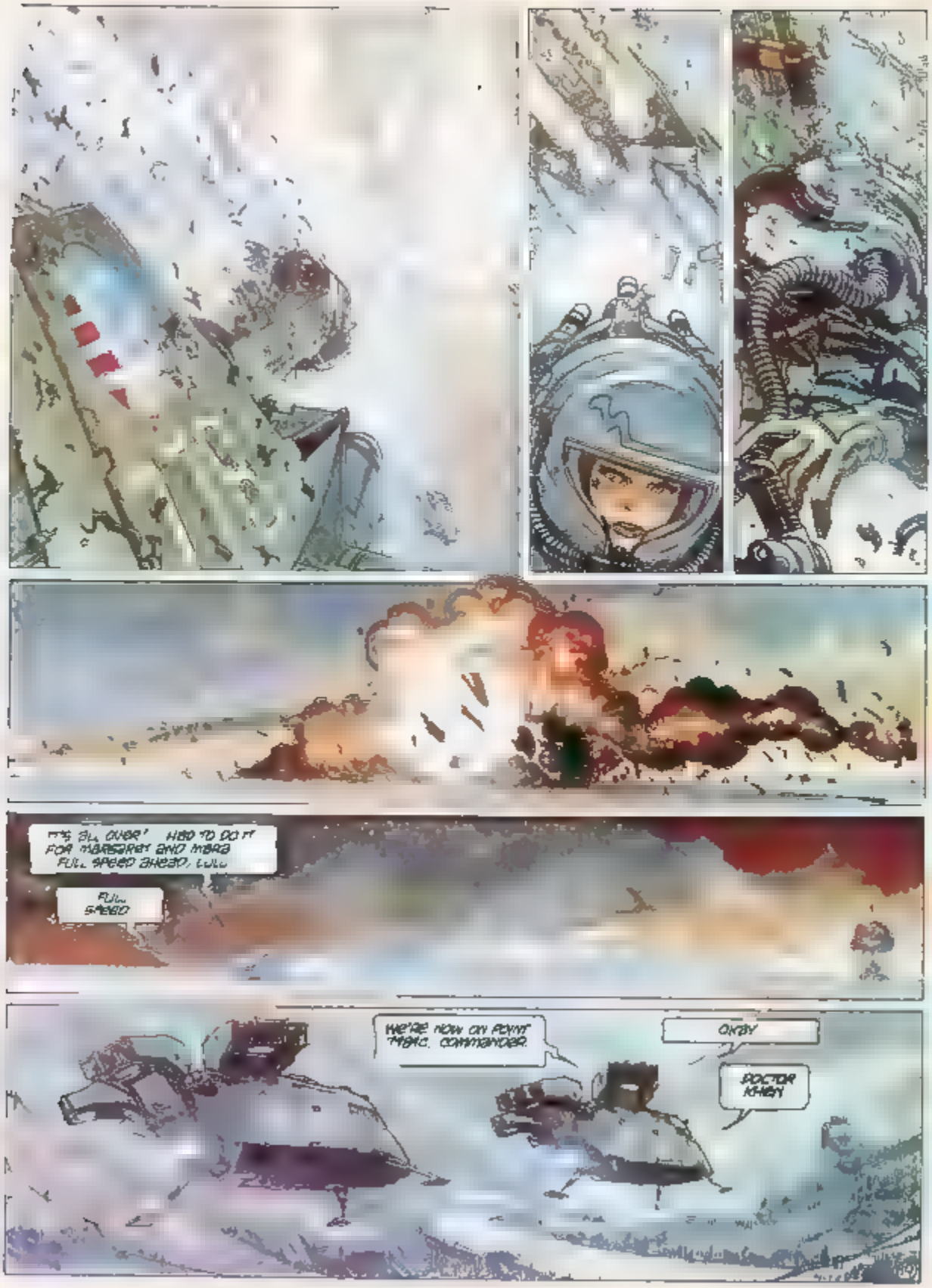
DON'T BE AN IDIOT. IT COULD TAKE US TO A REAL TARGET. THAT'S GOD. IT'S GOING TOWARD THE POINT WHERE WE SHOT DOWN THOSE KROMMILIANS.
JUST A MOMENT. THAT SHIP IS NOT BLOWN
A FIGHTER IS FOLLOWING AT SIX O'CLOCK. MISSILES DEPLOYED
MISSILES? WHAT?
JOE!!
IT WON'T BE EASY TO WIN THIS BET, JOE
YOU KROMMILIAN BAS-TARD I'LL SHOW YOU

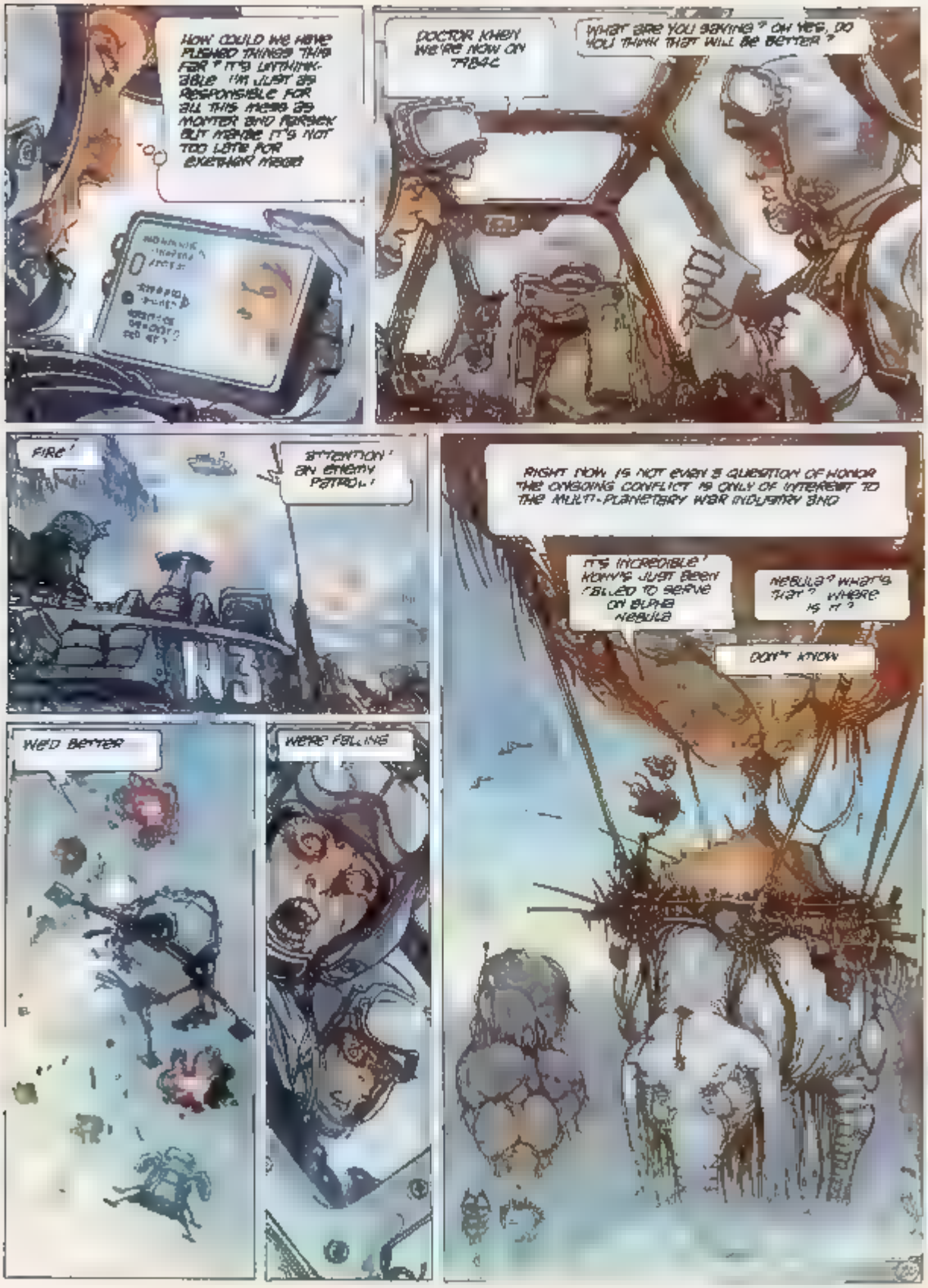

NOW BETTER KNOWN AS THE SOLID SEA WHERE ONLY WAR MACHINES ARE TO BE FOUND. ISN'T IT TIME NOW TO ASK OUR GOVERNMENT WHY THIS SEA F. IT STILL HASN'T BEEN RESOLVED
SINCE WHEN DO YOU FIND BLUE SPACE'S MESSAGES INTERESTING?
NO, IT'S NOT HER BUT WHO'S NOW WAS KILLED
THE PLANET?

BEEP BEEP
MEGA' TERRAIN LEVEL OPTIMAL APPROPRIATE SPEED 350 TO 400
ROGER GO TO 400
WE'RE AT 400 WE WILL GET TO POINT TRIAC IN TWELVE MINUTES AND THIRTY SECONDS
THE RESCUE SHIP IS STILL IN FRONT OF ME THE PILOT ISN'T THERE ANYMORE HE COULDN'T HAVE GONE FAR
CAREFUL MEGA A RESCUE SHIP XJ9 IS HEADING TOWARDS US ON 0.50
A RESCUE SHIP? THAT'S VERY ODD
CAREFUL MEGA
ENEMY SHIP ON 0.4 30 SECONDS
CAN YOU READ THAT SHIP LULU?
SOMETHING IMPORTANT MUST BE HAPPENING ON SUB-BASE
THE CODE OF SHIP XJ9 IS UNREADABLE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO TRANSMIT ONLY ON YOUR PERSONAL CODE

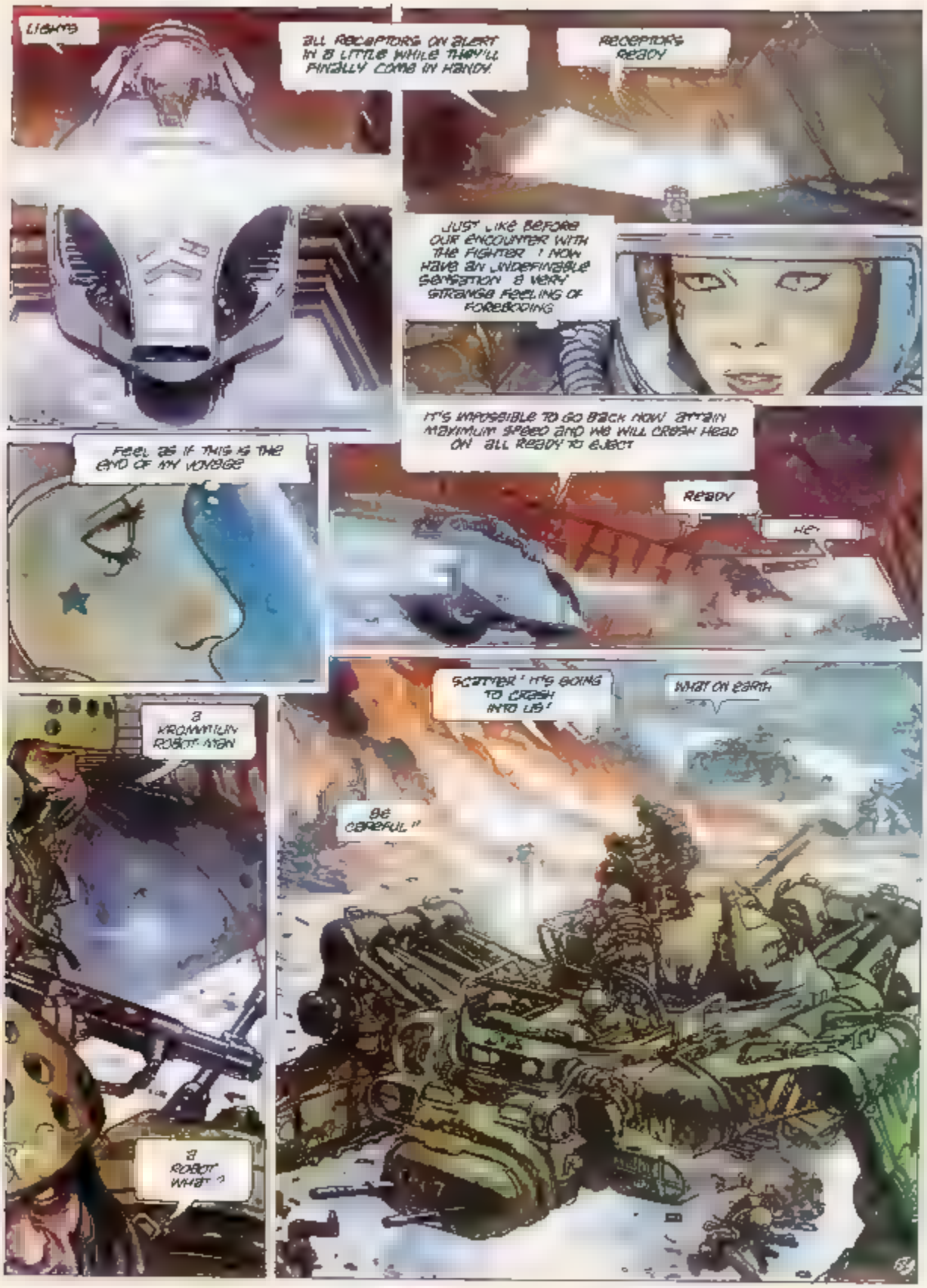

WHICH MEANS THAT I CAN'T FIND OUT THE MESSAGE UNTIL THAT SHIP HAS LANDED.
AND MY FEELING IS THAT IT WILL HAVE A HARD TIME LANDING, BECAUSE THE FIGHTER SHIP IS GETTING CLOSER
LULU, ACTIVATE ALL YOUR RECEPTORS. ARM YOUR MISSILES.
ROGER!
HEY LOOK OVER THERE THERE'S A ROBOT-MEN. GOOD GOING.
WE MUST FIRST SHOOT DOWN THE RESCUE SHIP AND ONE ROUND SHOULD BE ENOUGH.
ACCELERATE!
SPEED DOWN TO 200
WATCH OUT, LULU MISSILES!!
17


I THINK WE GOT HIM I THINK THE FIGHTER IS GOING TO COME STRAIGHT TOWARD US. LET'S BE CAREFUL
BLEAT!
THAT BASTARD HAS MORE GUN POWER THAN I THOUGHT
DAMN BASTARD!! HAVE FORESEEN ALL YOUR MOVES
MAXIMUM ALERT! SPEED UP TO 600 WE WILL COMBAT SIDE BY SIDE WITH THE SIDE FLAPS


IT'S ALL OVER! HAD TO DO IT FOR MARGARET AND MARA FULL SPEED AHEAD, LULU
FULL SPEED
WE'RE NOW ON POINT MAGIC COMMANDER.
OKAY
DOCTOR KHAN


HOW COULD WE HAVE PUSHED THINGS THIS FAR ? IT'S UNTHINKABLE ! I'M JUST AS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL THIS MESS AS MORTER AND FARREN BUT MAYBE IT'S NOT TOO LATE FOR EVERYONE MAYBE
DOCTOR KHEN WE'RE NOW ON TRIAC
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING ? OH YES, DO YOU THINK THAT WILL BE BETTER ?
FIRE !
ATTENTION ! AN ENEMY PATROL !
N3
RIGHT NOW IS NOT EVEN A QUESTION OF HONOR THE ONGOING CONFLICT IS ONLY OF INTEREST TO THE MULTI-PLANETARY WAR INDUSTRY BIND
IT'S INCREDIBLE ! KOHN'S JUST BEEN RELEGATED TO SERVE ON BUHR NEBULA
NEBULA ? WHAT'S THAT ? WHERE IS IT ?
DON'T KNOW
WE'D BETTER
WE'RE FALLING

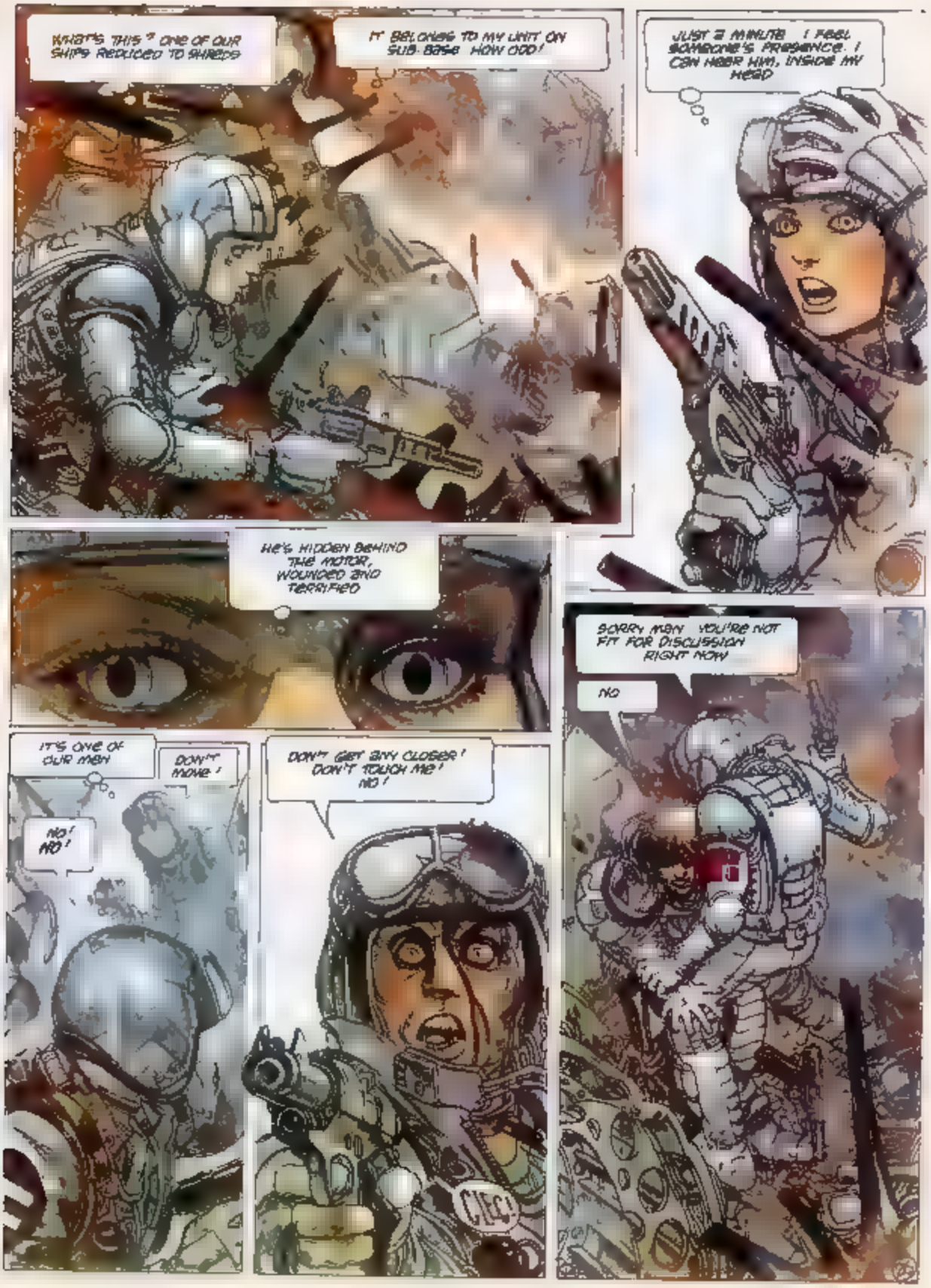
WE'RE ON THE OLD HIGHWAY NOW AND THE CLOSEST SECTION OF THE EAST COAST IS UNDER ALLIED DOMINATION
LULU, TOTAL TRACTION AND FRONTAL FLAPS DOWN
FLAPS IN POSITION
IF I CAN CROSS THE MOUNTAINS AND GET TO THE LIQUID SEA IT WILL BE EASY

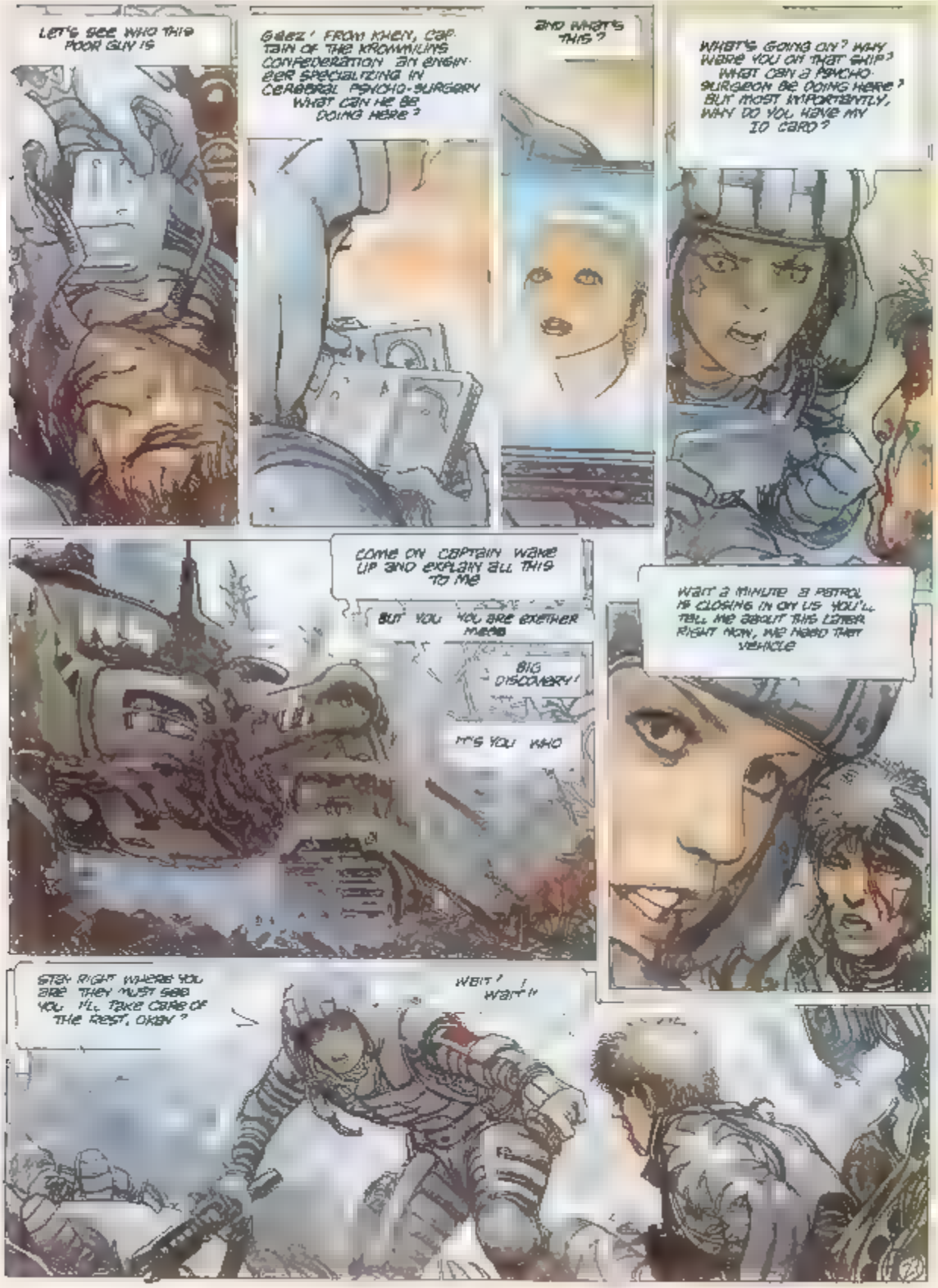

LIGHTS
ALL RECEPTORS ON ALERT IN A LITTLE WHILE THEY'LL FINALLY COME IN HANDY.
RECEPTOR'S READY
JUST LIKE BEFORE OUR ENCOUNTER WITH THE FIGHTER ! NOW HAVE AN UNDEFINABLE SENSATION A VERY STRANGE FEELING OF FOREBODING
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO GO BACK NOW! ATTAIN MAXIMUM SPEED AND WE WILL CRASH HEAD ON ALL READY TO EJECT
READY
HE!
FEEL AS IF THIS IS THE END OF MY VOYAGE
SCHMER ! IT'S GOING TO CRASH INTO US !
WHAT ON EARTH
BE CAREFUL !!
A KROMMIUN ROBOT-MAN
A ROBOT WHAT ?

THERE'S NO WAY TO AVOID THIS, BUT THEY'RE GOING TO PAY FOR IT
IMMEDIATE CONTACT!
BREAK FLAPS EJECTION!
NOW!

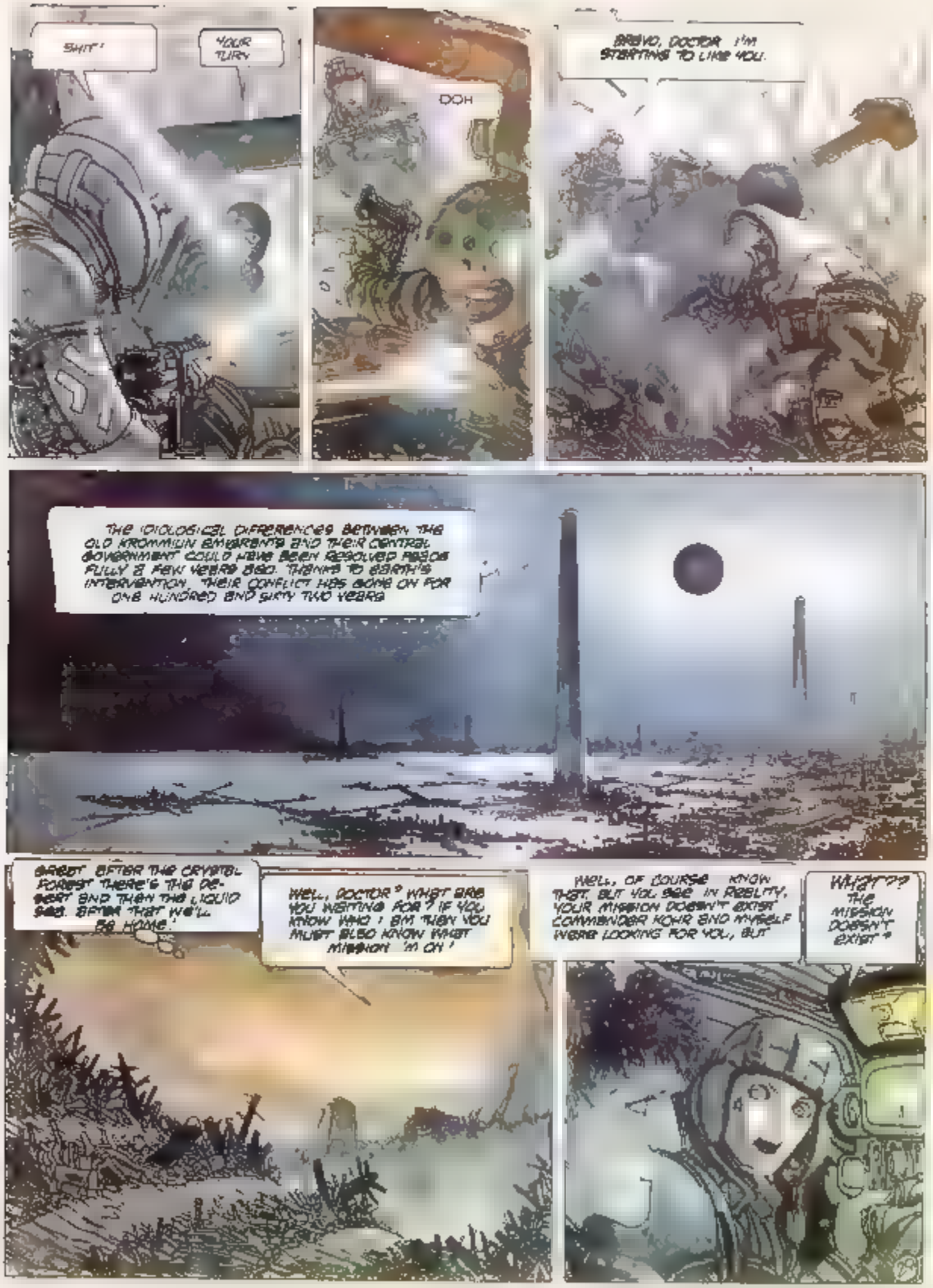
I MUST GET OUT OF HERE THOSE PIGS WILL COME BACK
I SAW IT ON A MESSAGE FROM BLUESPACE WHICH SAID THAT ON THE MEDIAN RING OF STARS THAT WE SEE FROM EARTH IS
SYSTEM NUMBER 2078 WHERE ALPHA NEBULA IS, A PLANET THAT BECAME INDEPENDENT AND WHERE NOW HUMAN BEINGS AND BEINGS OF OTHER RACES ARE DYING DO YOU KNOW WHY?

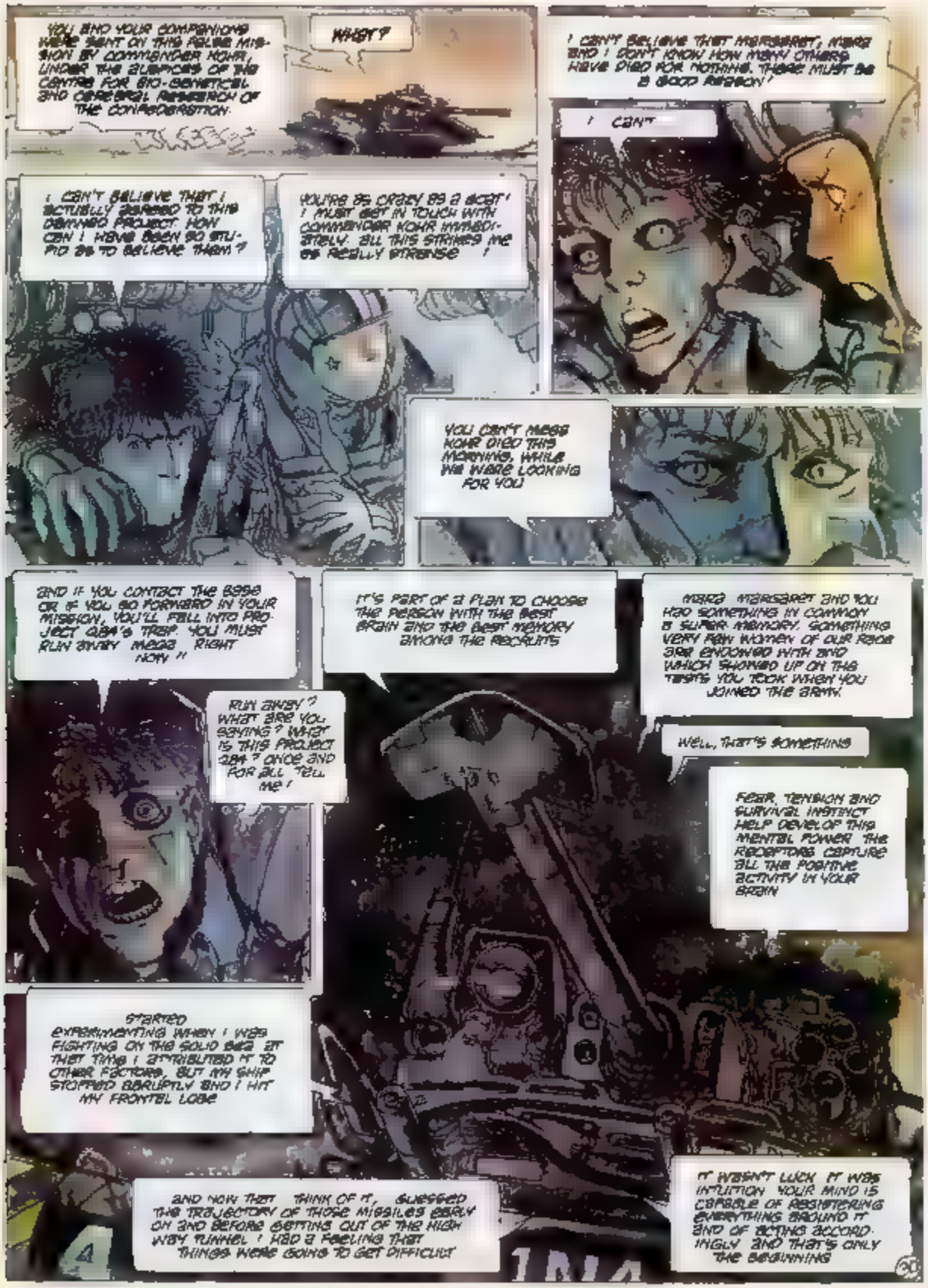
A REALISTIC DIAGNOSTIC BEFORE THE VITAL RESULTS ARE IN
THANKS TO MY INSTINCTS I'VE COME OUT OF THIS WITHOUT A SCRATCH BUT THE BEST THING WOULD BE TO FIND A MEANS OF LOCOMOTION OTHER THAN MY FEET IN ORDER TO GET OUT OF HERE
BE CAREFUL
AN UNDESIRABLE ARMED PATROL
I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF A DENSELY PATROLLED ZONE IT WON'T BE EASY TO GET OUT OF HERE
I'LL HAVE TO FORGET MY ORDERS AND JUST FOLLOW MY INTUITION
I'VE NEVER BEEN IN SUCH A TOUGH SPOT SINCE I ENTERED THE PILOT ACADEMY


WHAT'S THIS ? ONE OF OUR SHIPS REDUCED TO SHREDS
IT BELONGS TO MY UNIT ON SUB-BASE HOW ODD!
JUST A MINUTE ! I FEEL SOMEONE'S PRESENCE. I CAN HEAR HIM, INSIDE MY HEAD
HE'S HIDDEN BEHIND THE MOTOR, WOUNDED AND TERRIFIED
SORRY MAN YOU'RE NOT FIT FOR DISCUSSION RIGHT NOW
NO
IT'S ONE OF OUR MEN
DON'T MOVE !
NO! NO!
DON'T GET ANY CLOSER ! DON'T TOUCH ME ! NO !

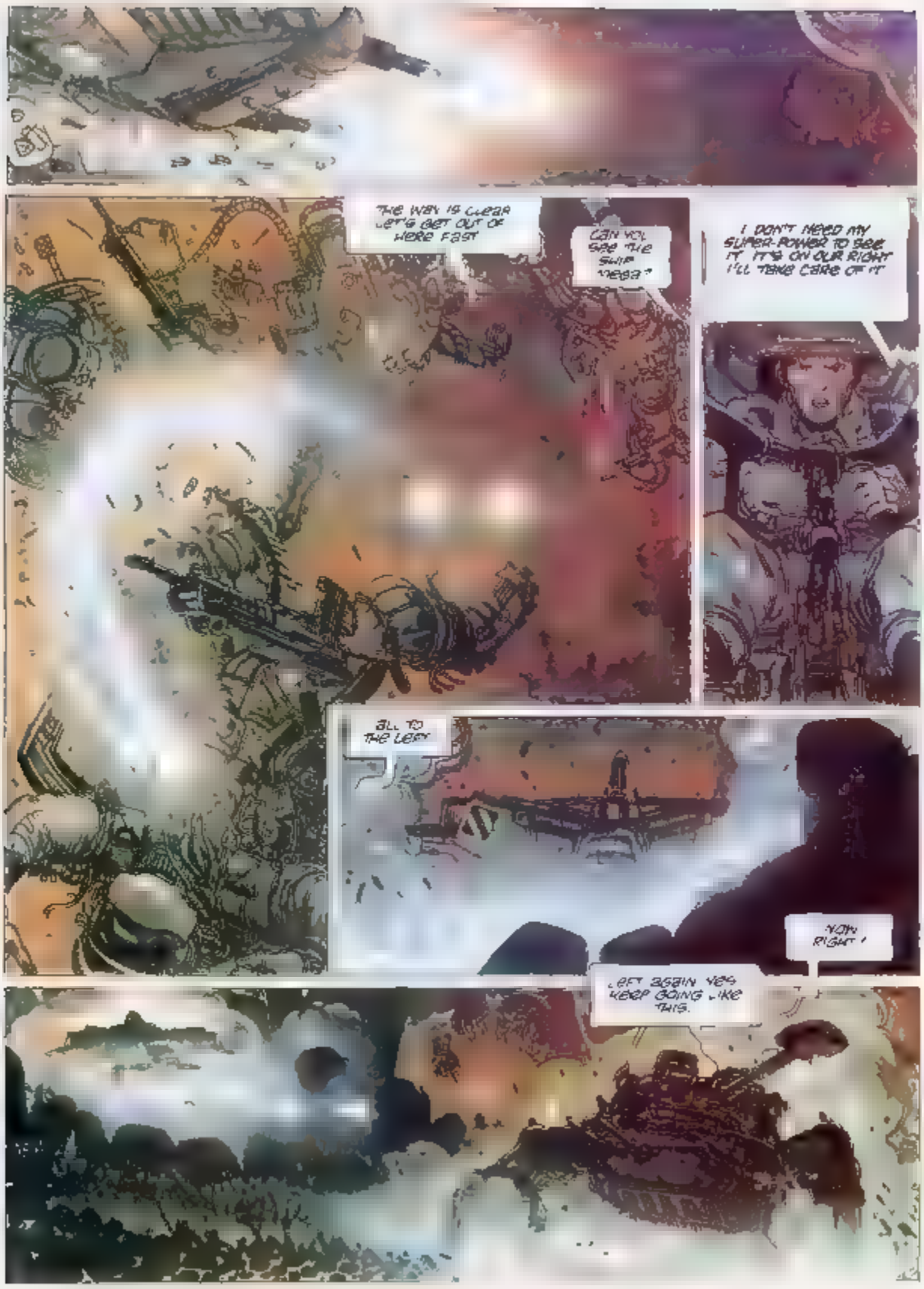

LET'S SEE WHO THIS POOR GUY IS
GEEZ! FROM KHEN, CAPTAIN OF THE KROMNILYS CONFEDERATION. AN ENGINEER SPECIALIZING IN CEREBRAL PSYCHO-SURGERY. WHAT CAN HE BE DOING HERE?
AND WHAT'S THIS?
WHAT'S GOING ON? WHY WERE YOU ON THAT SHIP? WHAT CAN A PSYCHO-SURGEON BE DOING HERE? BUT MOST IMPORTANTLY, WHY DO YOU HAVE MY ID CARD?
COME ON CAPTAIN WAKE UP AND EXPLAIN ALL THIS TO ME
BUT YOU YOU ARE EITHER MEAN
BIG DISCOVERY!
IT'S YOU WHO
WAIT A MINUTE. A PATROL IS CLOSING IN ON US. YOU'LL TELL ME ABOUT THIS LATER. RIGHT NOW, WE NEED THAT VEHICLE
STAY RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE. THEY MUST SEE YOU. I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE REST, OKAY?
WAIT! WAIT!!

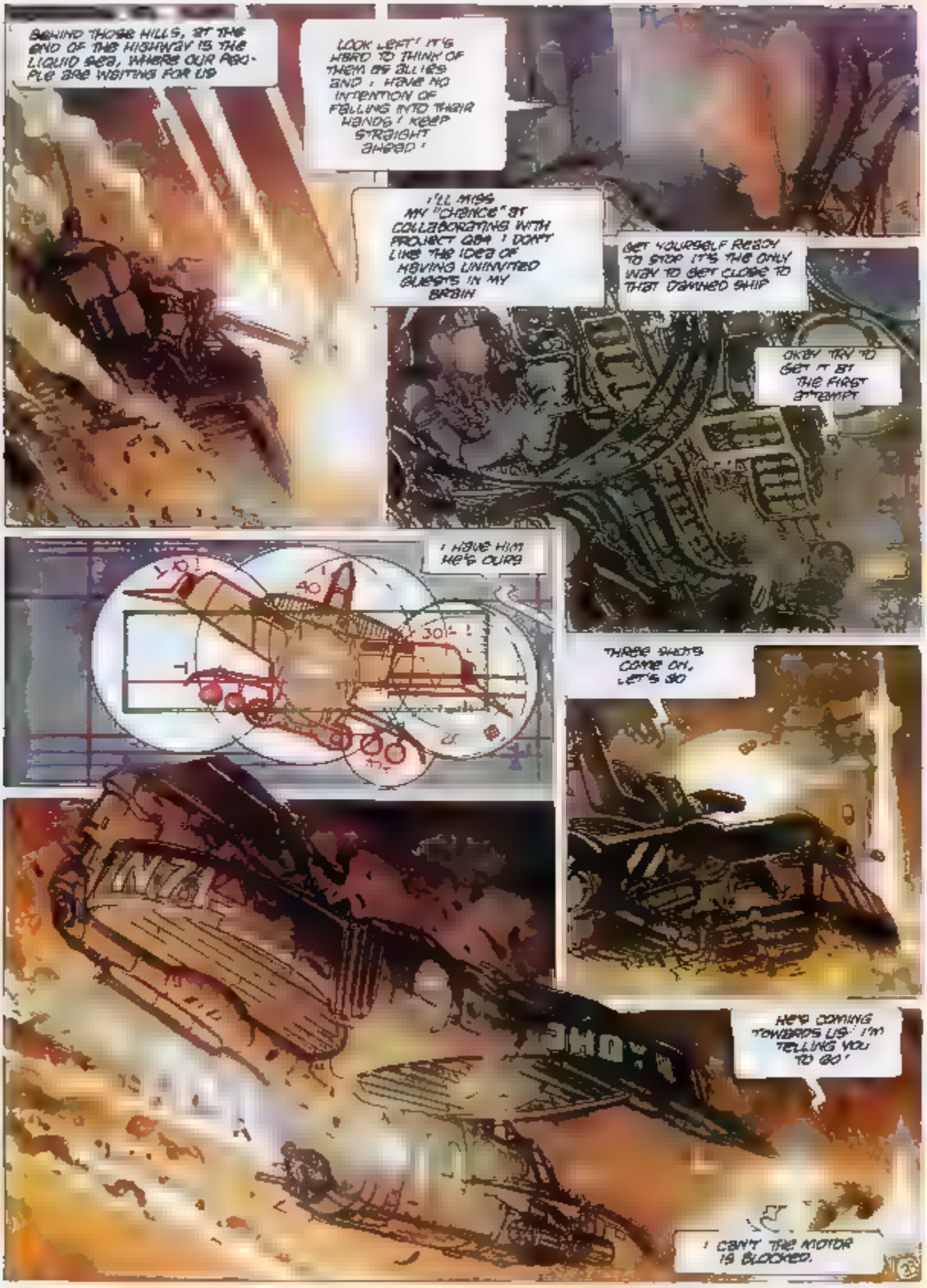
DON'T LEAVE ME WAIT! DO YOU WANT ME TO
DO AS I TELL YOU 'IDIOT'
SHIT! THEN'RE HERE ALREADY!
DOWN THERE! THAT PIG WAS ON THE ROBOT-MAN FIRE!!
NO DON'T SHOOT!!
WANT TO ASK HIM A FEW QUESTIONS HEY YOU DON'T MOVE PUT YOUR HANDS UP
GET DOWN DOCTOR

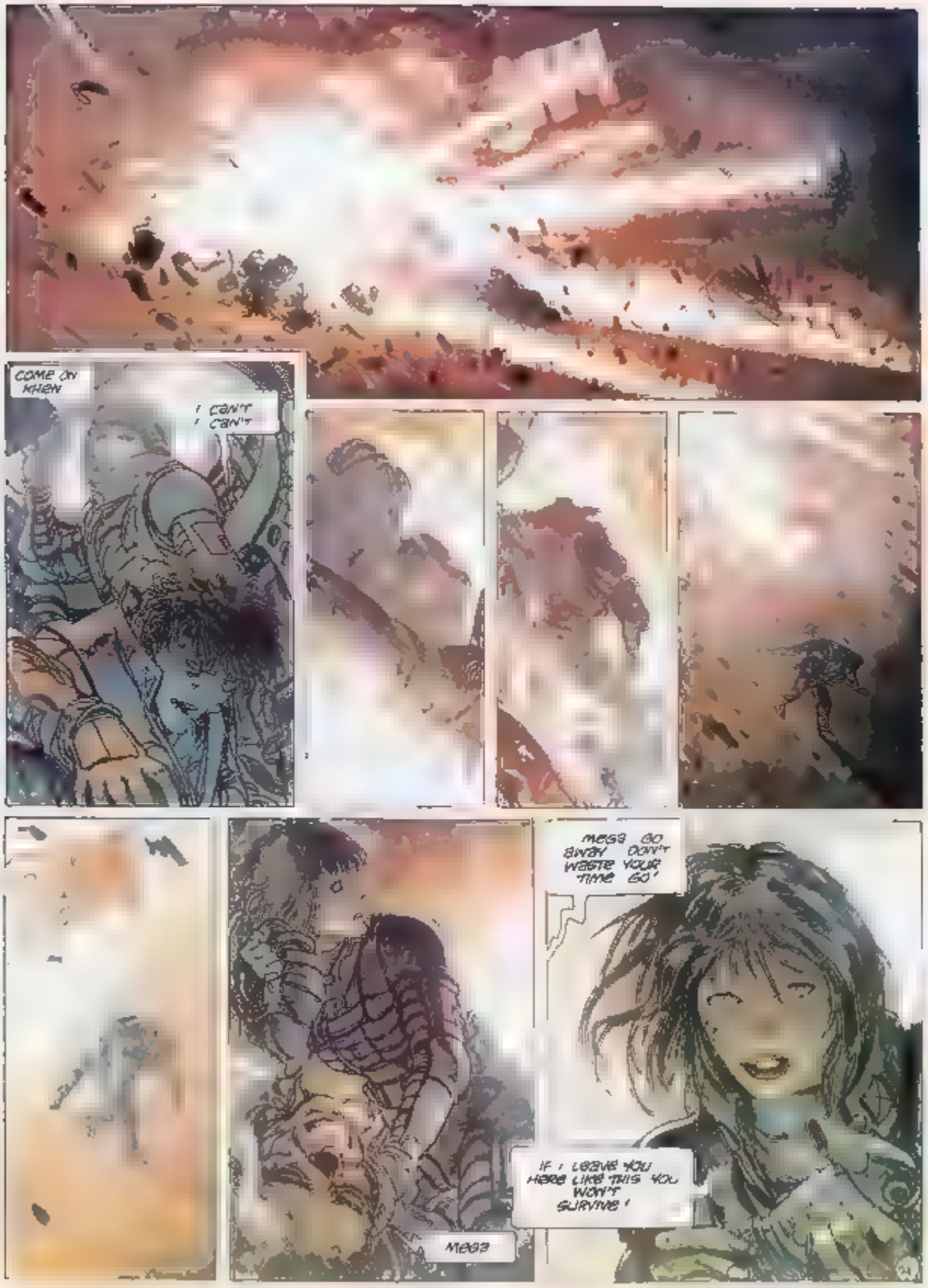

SHIT!
YOUR TURN
OOH
BRAVO, DOCTOR. I'M STARTING TO LIKE YOU.
THE IDEOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE OLD KROMMUN EMIGRANTS AND THEIR CENTRAL GOVERNMENT COULD HAVE BEEN RESOLVED PEACEFULLY A FEW YEARS AGO. THANKS TO EARTH'S INTERVENTION, THEIR CONFLICT HAS GONE ON FOR ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY TWO YEARS
AHEAD AFTER THE CRYSTAL FOREST THERE'S THE DESERT AND THEN THE LIQUID SEA. AFTER THAT WE'LL BE HOME.
WELL, DOCTOR? WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? IF YOU KNOW WHO I AM THEN YOU MUST ALSO KNOW WHAT MISSION I'M ON!
WELL, OF COURSE I KNOW THAT. BUT YOU SEE, IN REALITY, YOUR MISSION DOESN'T EXIST. COMMANDER KOHR AND MYSELF WERE LOOKING FOR YOU, BUT
WHAT?? THE MISSION DOESN'T EXIST?

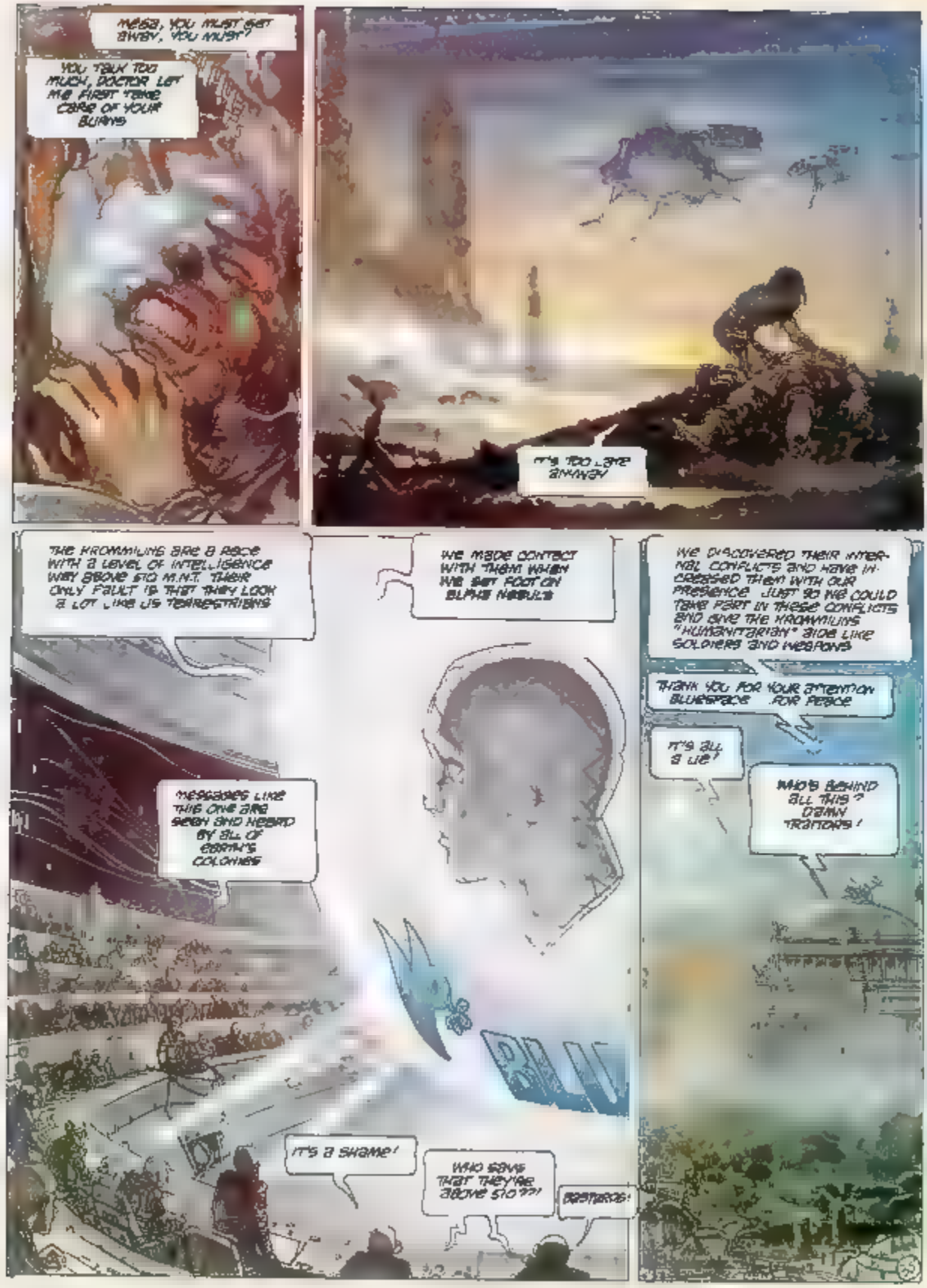

YOU AND YOUR COMPANIONS WERE SENT ON THIS FALSE MISSION BY COMMANDER KOHR, UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE CENTRE FOR BIO-GENETICAL AND CEREBRAL RESEARCH OF THE CONFEDERATION.
WHAT?
I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT MARGARET, MARC AND I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY OTHERS HAVE DIED FOR NOTHING. THERE MUST BE A GOOD REASON!
I CAN'T
I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT I ACTUALLY AGREED TO THIS DAMNED PROJECT. HOW CAN I HAVE BEEN SO STUPID AS TO BELIEVE THEM?
YOU'RE AS CRAZY AS A GOAT! I MUST GET IN TOUCH WITH COMMANDER KOHR IMMEDIATELY. ALL THIS STRIKES ME AS REALLY STRANGE!
YOU CAN'T MARC KOHR DIED THIS MORNING, WHILE WE WERE LOOKING FOR YOU
AND IF YOU CONTACT THE BASE OR IF YOU GO FORWARD IN YOUR MISSION, YOU'LL FALL INTO PROJECT Q84'S TRAP. YOU MUST RUN AWAY MARC. RIGHT NOW!!
IT'S PART OF A PLAN TO CHOOSE THE PERSON WITH THE BEST BRAIN AND THE BEST MEMORY AMONG THE RECRUITS
MARC MARGARET AND YOU HAD SOMETHING IN COMMON A SUPER MEMORY. SOMETHING VERY RAN WOMEN OF OUR RACE ARE ENDOWED WITH AND WHICH SHOWED UP ON THE TESTS YOU TOOK WHEN YOU JOINED THE ARMY.
RUN AWAY? WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? WHAT IS THIS PROJECT Q84? ONCE AND FOR ALL TELL ME!
WELL, THAT'S SOMETHING
FEAR, TENSION AND SURVIVAL INSTINCT HELP DEVELOP THIS MENTAL POWER THE RECEPTORS CAPTURE ALL THE POSITIVE ACTIVITY IN YOUR BRAIN
STARTED EXPERIMENTING WHEN I WAS FIGHTING ON THE SOLID SEA. AT THAT TIME I ATTRIBUTED IT TO OTHER FACTORS, BUT MY SHIP STOPPED SUDDENLY AND I HIT MY FRONTAL LOBE
AND NOW THAT I THINK OF IT, GUESSED THE TRAJECTORY OF THOSE MISSILES EARLY ON AND BEFORE GETTING OUT OF THE HIGH WAY TUNNEL I HAD A FEELING THAT THINGS WERE GOING TO GET DIFFICULT
IT WASN'T LUCK. IT WAS INTUITION. YOUR MIND IS CAPABLE OF REGISTERING EVERYTHING AROUND IT AND OF ACTING ACCORDINGLY. AND THAT'S ONLY THE BEGINNING
4
20

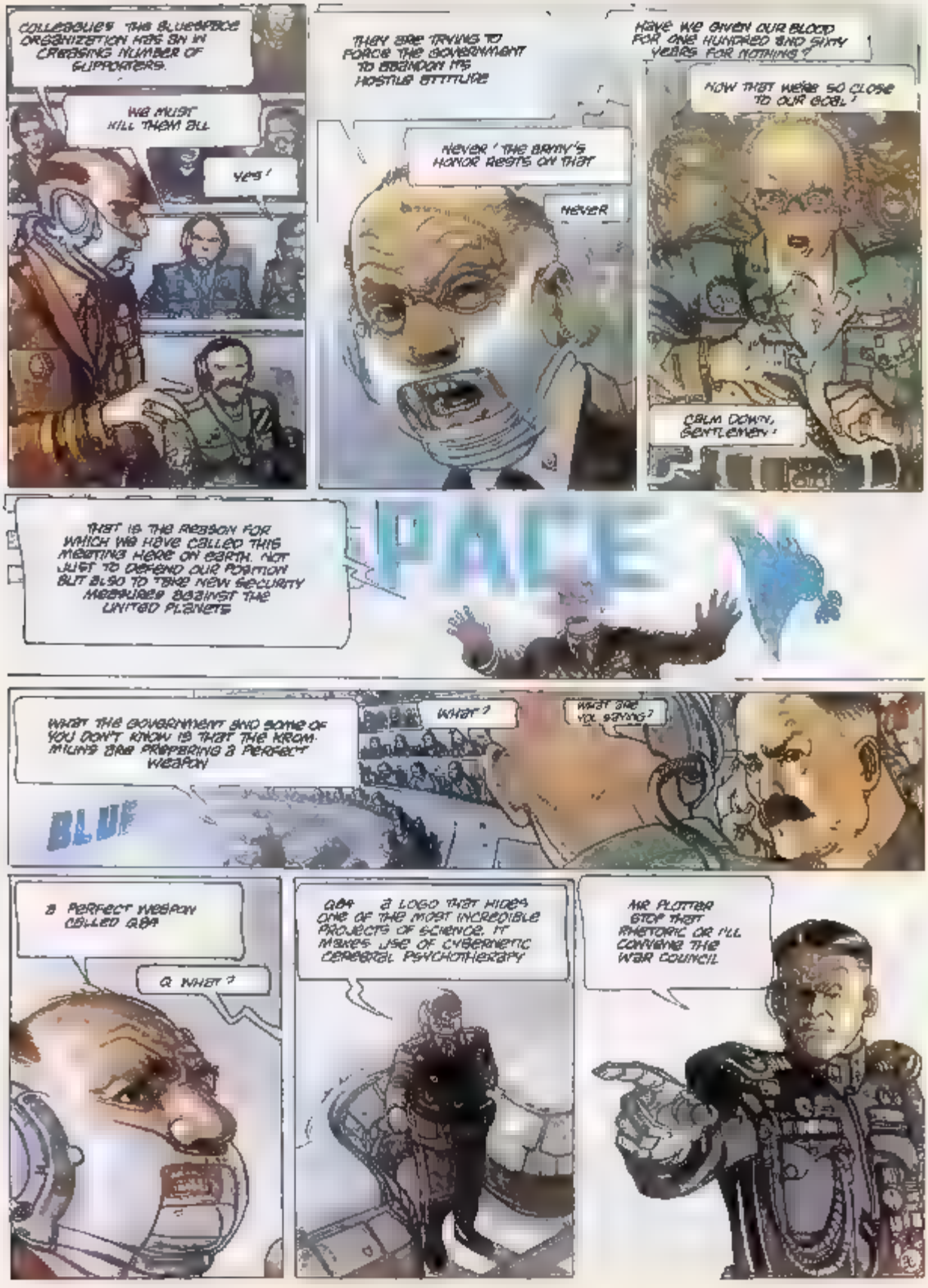
WELL, AND WHAT GOOD IS ALL THIS IN THIS STUPID WAR? WHAT CAN DO ALL BY MYSELF?
ALMOST NOTHING! BUT IF WE CAN UNITE FOUR EXTRAORDINARY POWERS IN A SINGLE INTELLIGENCE ITS POWER WILL BE UNLIMITED
AND FURTHERMORE, IF ONE OF THEM IS DISCIPLINED AND USED FOR FIGHTING WE WILL HAVE A PERFECT WEAPON DOCTOR, YOU NEED A MILLION OTHER THINGS TO
YOU BE RISKY
AND HE ALMOST SUCCEEDED ONLY YOU ARE MISSING. YOU ARE THE FOURTH BRAIN THE FOURTH POWER"
WHO WERE THE OTHER CANDIDATES FOR
WAIT A MINUTE! SOME ALIEN SHIP IS COMING THIS WAY
AN ALLIED SHIP AND IT'S COMING THIS WAY
YOU TAKE CARE OF THE SHIP I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE FIGHTING.
ALL RIGHT!
WHEN YOU HEAR THE FIRST SHOT REV UP THE MOTOR AND LET'S GET OUT OF HERE AS FAST AS WE CAN!
31

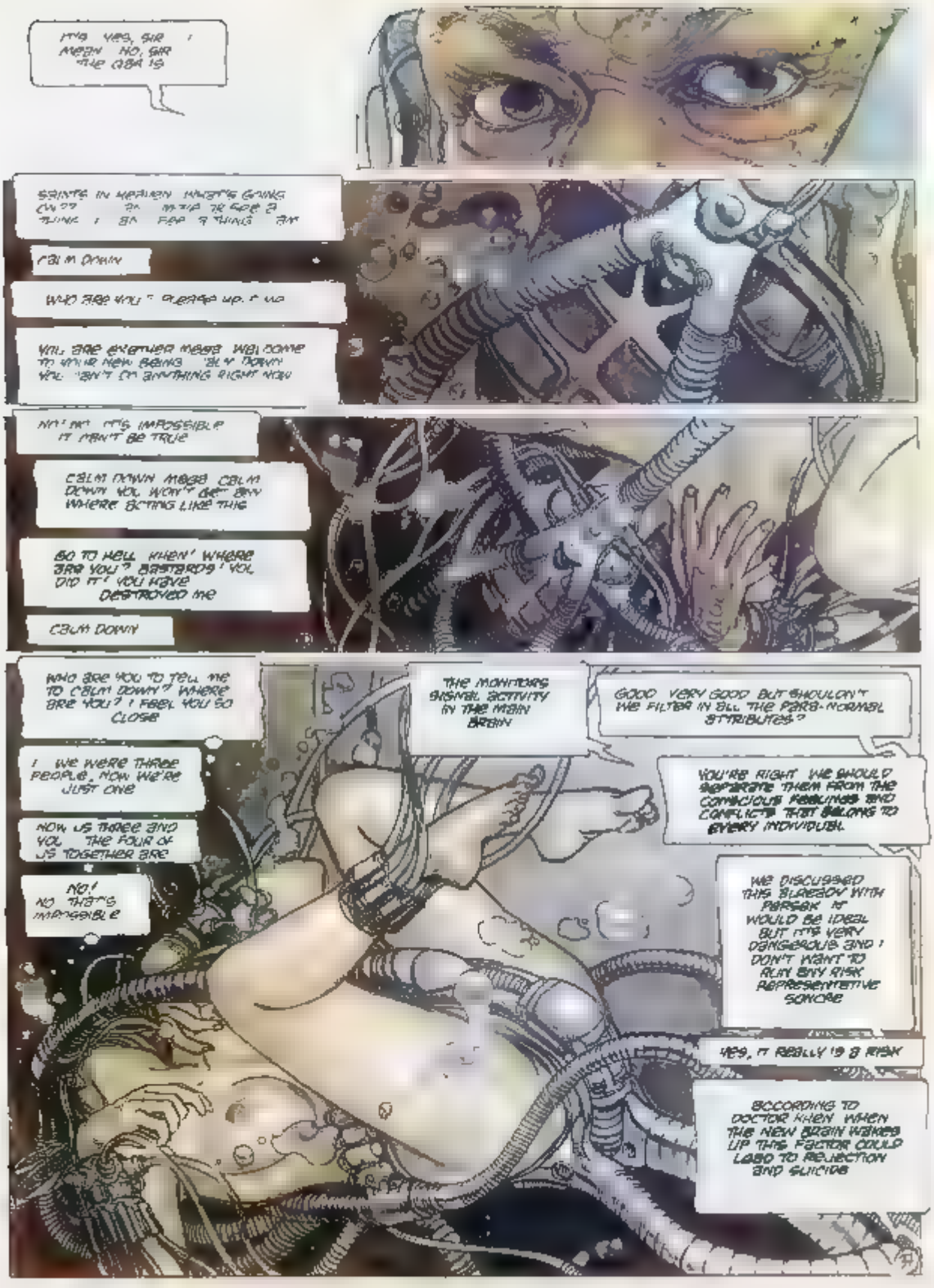

THE WAY IS CLEAR LET'S GET OUT OF HERE FAST
CAN YOU SEE THE SHIP MEGA ?
I DON'T NEED MY SUPER-POWER TO SEE IT, IT'S ON OUR RIGHT I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT
ALL TO THE LEFT
NOW RIGHT !
LEFT AGAIN YES KEEP GOING LIKE THIS.

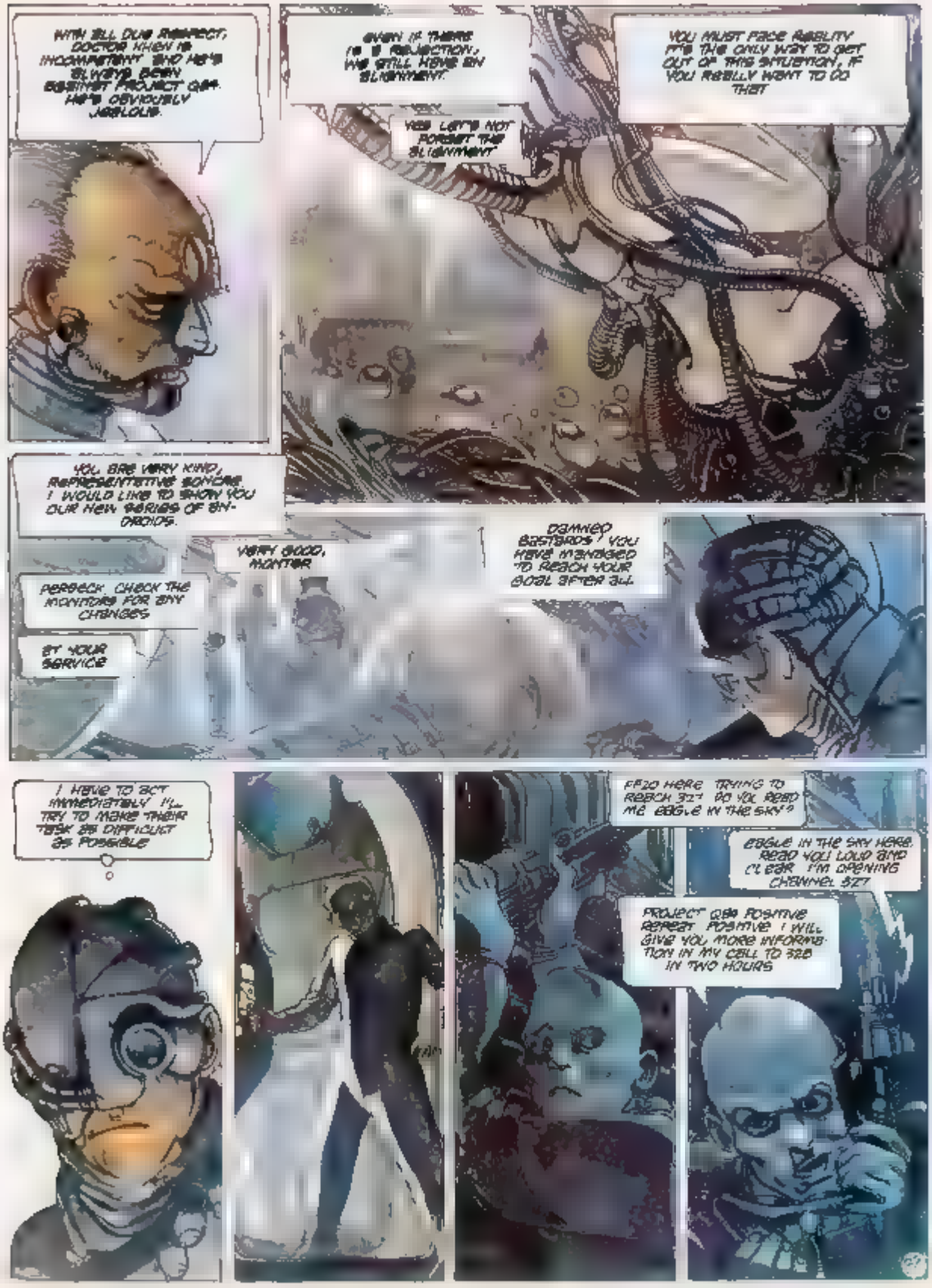

BEHIND THOSE HILLS, AT THE END OF THE HIGHWAY IS THE LIQUID SEA, WHERE OUR PEOPLE ARE WAITING FOR US
LOOK LEFT! IT'S HARD TO THINK OF THEM AS ALLIES AND I HAVE NO INTENTION OF FALLING INTO THEIR HANDS! KEEP STRAIGHT AHEAD!
I'LL MISS MY "CHANCE" AT COLLABORATING WITH PROJECT QBA I DON'T LIKE THE IDEA OF HAVING UNINVITED GUESTS IN MY BRAIN
GET YOURSELF READY TO STOP IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO GET CLOSE TO THAT DAMNED SHIP
OKAY TRY TO GET IT BY THE FIRST ATTEMPT
I HAVE HIM HE'S OURS
THREE SHOTS COME ON, LET'S GO
HE'S COMING TOWARDS US! I'M TELLING YOU TO GO!
I CAN'T THE MOTOR IS BLOCKED.

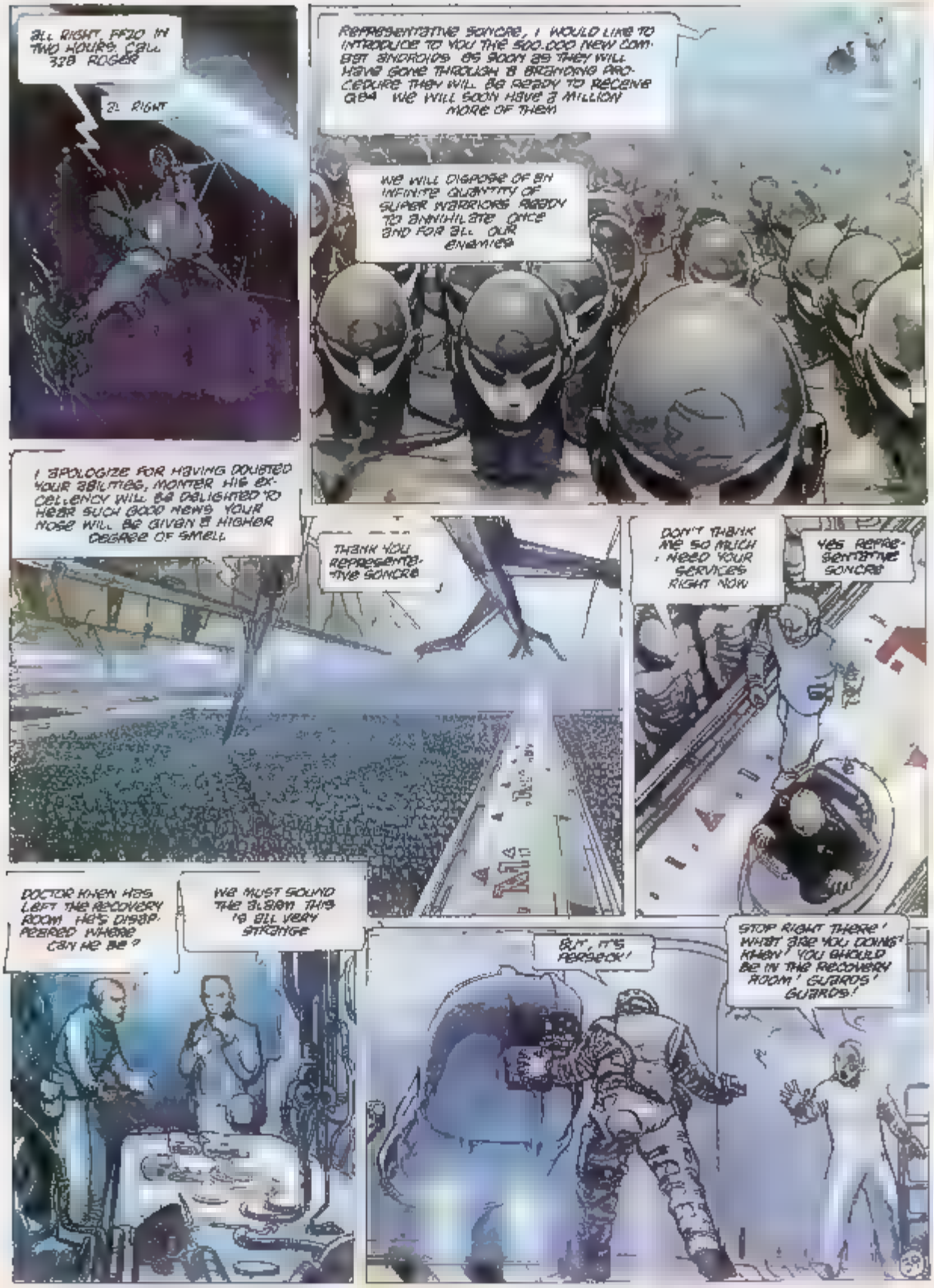

COME ON KHEN
I CAN'T
I CAN'T
MEGA GO AWAY DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME GO!
IF I LEAVE YOU HERE LIKE THIS YOU WON'T SURVIVE!
MEGA

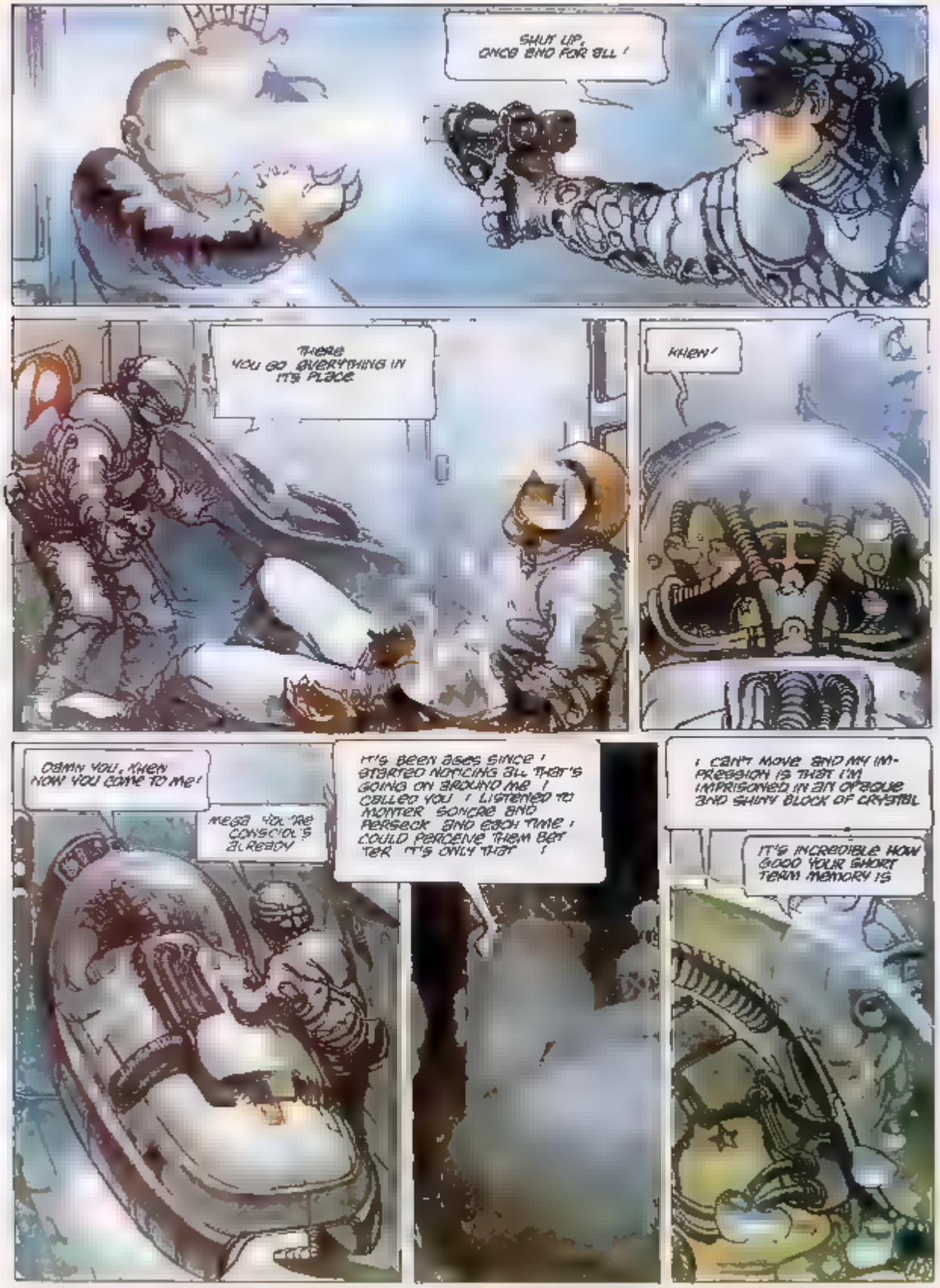

MEGA, YOU MUST GET AWAY, YOU MUST!
YOU TALK TOO MUCH, DOCTOR LET ME FIRST TAKE CARE OF YOUR BURNS
IT'S TOO LATE ARMAN
THE KROMMUNS ARE A RACE WITH A LEVEL OF INTELLIGENCE WAY ABOVE 510 M.N.T. THEIR ONLY FAULT IS THAT THEY LOOK A LOT LIKE US TERRESTRIANS
WE MADE CONTACT WITH THEM WHEN WE SET FOOT ON ELPHIS NEBULA
WE DISCOVERED THEIR INTERNAL CONFLICTS AND HAVE IN-CREASED THEM WITH OUR PRESENCE. JUST SO WE COULD TAKE PART IN THESE CONFLICTS AND GIVE THE KROMMUNS "HUMANITARIAN" SIDE LIKE SOLDIERS AND WEAPONS
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION BLUESPACE FOR PEACE
IT'S ALL A LIE!
WHO'S BEHIND ALL THIS? DAMN TRAITORS!
MESSAGES LIKE THIS ONE ARE SEEN AND HEARD BY ALL OF EARTH'S COLONIES
IT'S A SHAME!
WHO SAYS THAT THEY'RE ABOVE 510???
BASTARDS!


COLLEAGUES THE BLUEOFFICE ORGANIZATION HAS AN INCREASING NUMBER OF SUPPORTERS.
WE MUST KILL THEM ALL
YES!
THEY ARE TRYING TO FORCE THE GOVERNMENT TO ABANDON ITS HOSTILE ATTITUDE
NEVER! THE ARMY'S HONOR RESTS ON THAT
NEVER
HAVE WE GIVEN OUR BLOOD FOR ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY YEARS FOR NOTHING?
NOW THAT WE'RE SO CLOSE TO OUR GOAL!
CALM DOWN, GENTLEMEN!
THAT IS THE REASON FOR WHICH WE HAVE CALLED THIS MEETING HERE ON EARTH. NOT JUST TO DEFEND OUR POSITION BUT ALSO TO TAKE NEW SECURITY MEASURES AGAINST THE UNITED PLANETS
PACE
WHAT THE GOVERNMENT AND SOME OF YOU DON'T KNOW IS THAT THE KROMIANS ARE PREPARING A PERFECT WEAPON
WHAT?
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
BLUE
A PERFECT WEAPON CALLED Q.B.A.
Q. WHAT?
Q.B.A. A LOGO THAT HIDES ONE OF THE MOST INCREDIBLE PROJECTS OF SCIENCE. IT MAKES USE OF CYBERNETIC CEREBRAL PSYCHOTHERAPY
MR PLOTTER STOP THAT RHETORIC OR I'LL CONVENE THE WAR COUNCIL


IT'S YES, SIR ! I MEAN NO, SIR THE CBA IS
SAINTS IN HEAVEN WHAT'S GOING ON?? I'M IN THE GOD'S THINK I'M HAP'N THING I'M
CALM DOWN
WHO ARE YOU ? PLEASE ANSWER ME
YOU ARE ANOTHER MESS WELCOME TO YOUR NEW BEING SLOW DOWN YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING RIGHT NOW
NO! NO IT'S IMPOSSIBLE IT MAY'T BE TRUE
CALM DOWN MESS CALM DOWN YOU WON'T GET ANY WHERE ACTING LIKE THIS
GO TO HELL KHEN! WHERE ARE YOU? BASTARD! YOU DID IT! YOU HAVE DESTROYED ME
CALM DOWN
WHO ARE YOU TO TELL ME TO CALM DOWN? WHERE ARE YOU? I FEEL YOU SO CLOSE
THE MONITORS SIGNAL ACTIVITY IN THE MAIN BRAIN
GOOD VERY GOOD BUT SHOULDN'T WE FILTER IN ALL THE PARA-NORMAL ATTRIBUTES?
YOU'RE RIGHT WE SHOULD SEPARATE THEM FROM THE CONSCIOUS REALITIES AND CONFLICTS THAT BELONG TO EVERY INDIVIDUAL
I WE WERE THREE PEOPLE, NOW WE'RE JUST ONE
NOW US THREE AND YOU THE FOUR OF US TOGETHER ARE
NO! NO THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE
WE DISCUSSED THIS QUESTION WITH PERSEK IT WOULD BE IDEAL BUT IT'S VERY DANGEROUS AND I DON'T WANT TO RUN ANY RISK REPRESENTATIVE SONORE
HEY, IT REALLY IS A RISK
ACCORDING TO DOCTOR KHEN WHEN THE NEW BRAIN WAKES UP THIS FACTOR COULD LEAD TO REJECTION AND SUICIDE

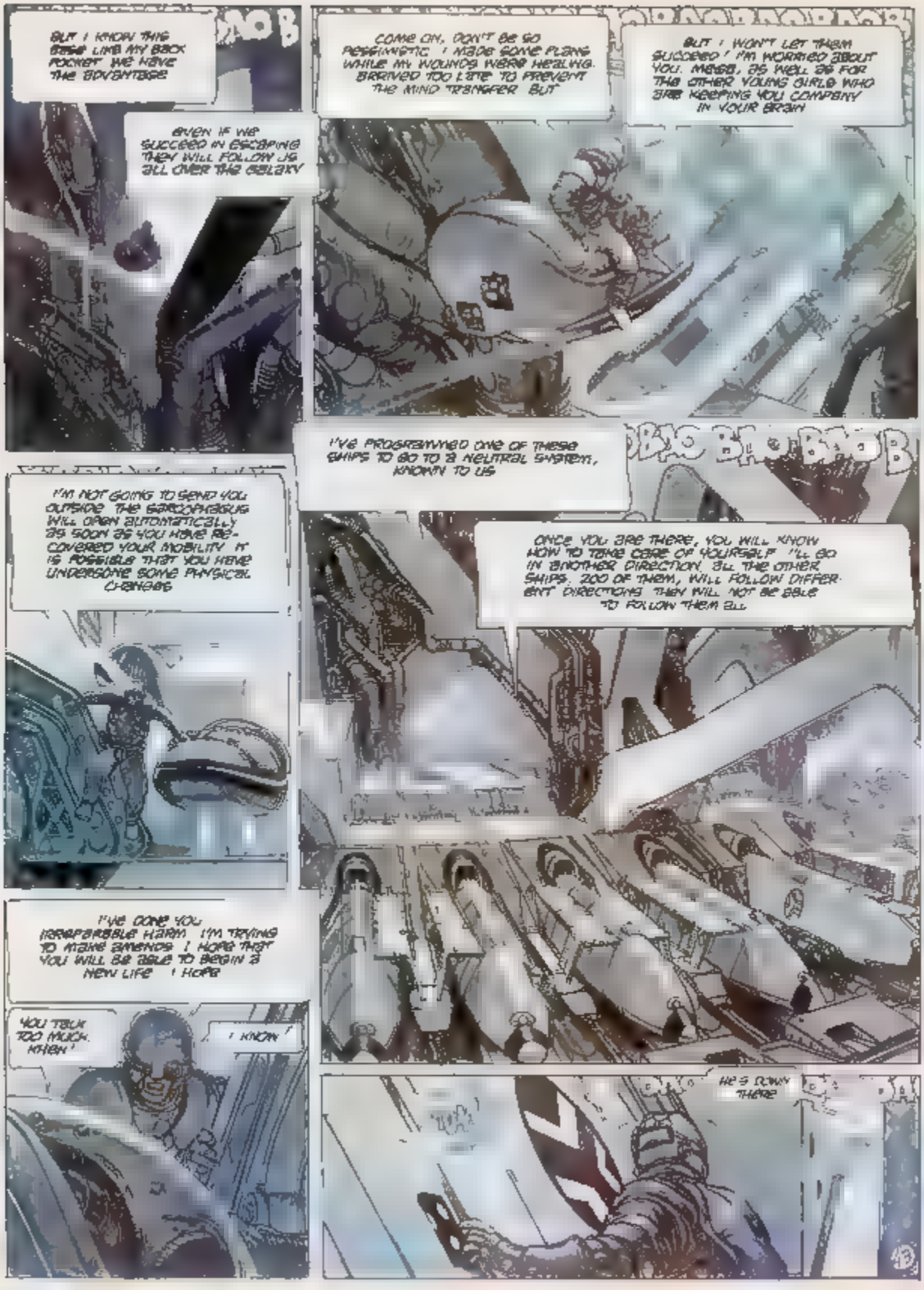

WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, DOCTOR KHAN IS INCOMPETENT. SHE'S ALWAYS BEEN AGAINST PROJECT Q88. HE'S OBVIOUSLY JEALOUS.
EVEN IF THERE IS A REJECTION, WE STILL HAVE AN ALIGNMENT.
YOU MUST FACE REALITY IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO GET OUT OF THIS SITUATION, IF YOU REALLY WANT TO DO THAT
YES LET'S NOT FORGET THE ALIGNMENT
YOU ARE VERY KIND, REPRESENTATIVE SONCINI. I WOULD LIKE TO SHOW YOU OUR NEW SERIES OF SN-DROIDS.
VERY GOOD, MONITOR
PERSECK, CHECK THE MONITORS FOR ANY CHANGES
AT YOUR SERVICE
DAMNED BASTARDS! YOU HAVE MANAGED TO REACH YOUR GOAL AFTER ALL
I HAVE TO ACT IMMEDIATELY !!... TRY TO MAKE THEIR TASK AS DIFFICULT AS POSSIBLE
EP20 HERE TRYING TO REACH 327 DO YOU READ ME EAGLE IN THE SKY?
EAGLE IN THE SKY HERE. READ YOU LOUD AND CLEAR I'M OPENING CHANNEL 327
PROJECT Q88 POSITIVE REPEAT POSITIVE I WILL GIVE YOU MORE INFORMATION IN MY CELL TO 328 IN TWO HOURS


ALL RIGHT, FF20 IN TWO HOURS. CALL 328 ROGER
AL RIGHT
REPRESENTATIVE SONORE, I WOULD LIKE TO INTRODUCE TO YOU THE 500.000 NEW COMBAT ANDROIDS. AS SOON AS THEY WILL HAVE GONE THROUGH A BRAINWAVE PROCEDURE THEY WILL BE READY TO RECEIVE Q84. WE WILL SOON HAVE 3 MILLION MORE OF THEM
WE WILL DISPOSE OF AN INFINITE QUANTITY OF SUPER WARRIORS READY TO ANNIHILATE ONCE AND FOR ALL OUR ENEMIES
I APOLOGIZE FOR HAVING DOUBTED YOUR ABILITIES, MONSTER. HIS EXCELLENCY WILL BE DELIGHTED TO HEAR SUCH GOOD NEWS. YOUR NOSE WILL BE GIVEN A HIGHER DEGREE OF SMELL
THANK YOU REPRESENTATIVE SONORE
DON'T THANK ME SO MUCH. I NEED YOUR SERVICES RIGHT NOW
YES REPRESENTATIVE SONORE
DOCTOR KHEN HAS LEFT THE RECOVERY ROOM. HE'S DISAPPEARED. WHERE CAN HE BE ?
WE MUST SOUND THE ALARM. THIS IS ALL VERY STRANGE
BUT, IT'S PERSEUS!
STOP RIGHT THERE! WHAT ARE YOU DOING, KHEN ? YOU SHOULD BE IN THE RECOVERY ROOM ! GUARDS ! GUARDS !


SHUT UP, ONCE AND FOR ALL !
THERE YOU GO EVERYTHING IN IT'S PLACE
KHEW !
DAMN YOU, KHEN HOW YOU COME TO ME !
MEGA YOU'RE CONSCIOUS ALREADY
IT'S BEEN AGES SINCE I STARTED NOTICING ALL THAT'S GOING ON AROUND ME ! CALLED YOU ! LISTENED TO MONTER SONORE AND PERSECK AND EACH TIME I COULD PERCEIVE THEM BETTER IT'S ONLY THAT !
I CAN'T MOVE AND MY IMPRESSION IS THAT I'M IMPRISONED IN AN OPAQUE AND SHINY BLOCK OF CRYSTAL
IT'S INCREDIBLE HOW GOOD YOUR SHORT TERM MEMORY IS

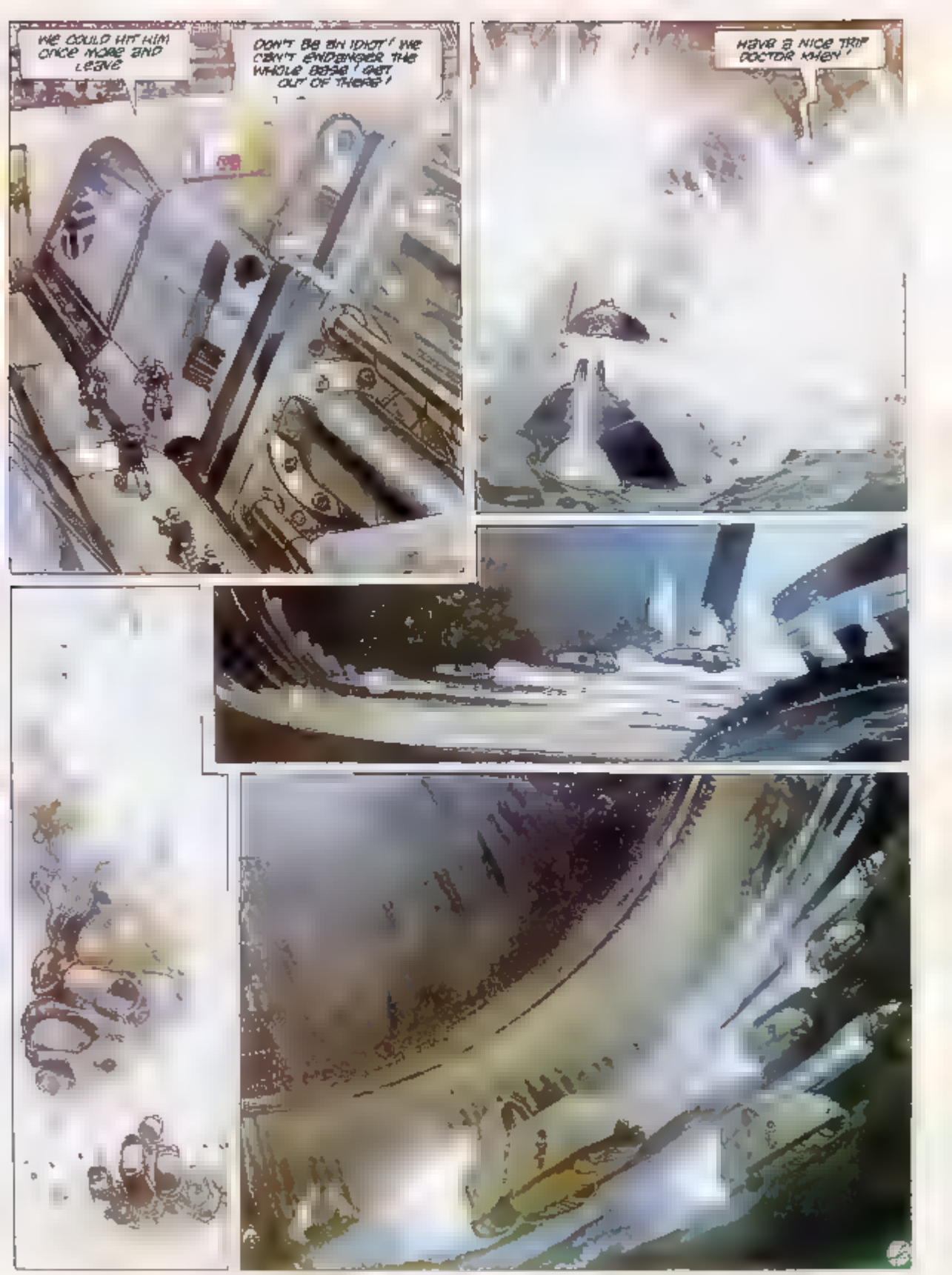
IT'S THE WORK OF AN INFILTRATED ENEMY GENERAL ALBIAN! BLOCK ALL THE EXITS! THE QBA HAS BEEN STOLEN!
WE MUST FINISH OFF PERSEUS WHOEVER DID THIS KNEW HOW THE LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEMS WORK SO AS NOT TO DAMAGE THE TRANSFER OF QBA. IT MUST BE DOCTOR KHEN
ALL LEVELS CLOSED
IT MUST BE KHEN
ALL GUERDS MUST BE POSTED AT THE EXITS OFF THIS LEVEL. MONTER, LET'S GO TO THE CENTRAL CONTROL ROOM! WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?
IT'S JUST AS I ALWAYS THOUGHT KHEN IS A BASTARD
ARE WE BEING ATTACKED?
NO, IT'S JUST ANOTHER DRILL!
WE HAVE SURROUNDED HIS SHIP. REPRESENTATIVE SONORE
GOOD. I WILL NOT HESITATE TO RISK YOUR LIVES IF IT IS NECESSARY.
AT YOUR SERVICE SIR
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S SAYING THAT!
THE DOOR IS OPENING, BE CAREFUL!
PEST
WHAT?!

THERE'S NO ONE HERE!
THERE'S NO ONE HERE EXCEPT FOR A NOISE WHICH IS VERY CLOSE TO THAT OF A.
GENTLEMEN HERE IS SOME GOOD NEWS OUR AGENT FRED HAS COMMUNICATED WITH BZT AND QRA IS WORKING
WHICH MEANS THAT WE ARE GOING TO HAVE TO FACE A PRACTICALLY INDESTRUCTABLE ENEMY THAT IS REALLY GOOD NEWS MR PLUTTER
NOW WE WILL HAVE TO DO JUST WHAT BLUEFACE WANTED TO SURRENDER
OUR CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY WHICH I'M PROUD TO BE A PART OF HAS COME TO THIS CONCLUSION
TELL US MUST THAT BE ONCE AND FOR ALL!
YEP, SIR SO I WAS SAYING, IT WAS MUCH EASIER TO SEIZE THE PROJECT ONCE IT WAS ALMOST FINISHED DOUBLE BEAST PERSECK WILL FINISH IT FOR US
YOU MEAN THAT WE CAN DISPOSE OF THIS MAN'S SERVICES AND THAT HE IS WILLING TO WORK FOR US?
EXACTLY!
THAT LITTLE GIFT JUST FOR HIM ON LEVEL K WILL SLOW THEM DOWN A BIT THERE WILL BE ENOUGH TIME FOR US TO TAKE ONE OF THE RESCUE SHIPS
YOU ARE MUCH TOO OPTIMISTIC I FEEL THAT THEY'RE GOING TO SURROUND US


BUT I KNOW THIS BEAST LIKE MY BACK POCKET WE HAVE THE ADVANTAGE
EVEN IF WE SUCCEED IN ESCAPING THEY WILL FOLLOW US ALL OVER THE GALAXY
COME ON, DON'T BE SO PESSIMISTIC ! MADE SOME PLANS WHILE MY WOUNDS WERE HEALING. ARRIVED TOO LATE TO PREVENT THE MIND TRANSFER BUT
BUT I WON'T LET THEM SUCCEED ! I'M WORRIED ABOUT YOU. MEGA, AS WELL AS FOR THE OTHER YOUNG GIRLS WHO ARE KEEPING YOU COMPANY IN YOUR BRAIN
I'VE PROGRAMMED ONE OF THESE SHIPS TO GO TO A NEUTRAL SYSTEM, KNOWN TO US
I'M NOT GOING TO SEND YOU OUTSIDE THE SARCOPHAGUS WILL OPEN AUTOMATICALLY AS SOON AS YOU HAVE RE-COVERED YOUR MOBILITY. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT YOU HAVE UNDERGONE SOME PHYSICAL CHANGES
ONCE YOU ARE THERE, YOU WILL KNOW HOW TO TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF. I'LL GO IN ANOTHER DIRECTION. ALL THE OTHER SHIPS, 200 OF THEM, WILL FOLLOW DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS. THEN WILL NOT BE ABLE TO FOLLOW THEM ALL
I'VE DONE YOU IRREPARABLE HARM. I'M TRYING TO MAKE AMENDS. I HOPE THAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO BEGIN A NEW LIFE. I HOPE
YOU TALK TOO MUCH, KHEN !
I KNOW !
HE'S DOWN THERE
48

WE'VE FOUND THEM THEY'RE NEAR EMERGENCY EXIT 7822
BLOCK ALL THE EXITS MORONS!
IT'S WHAT WE'RE TRYING TO DO, BUT SOMEONE HAS SHUT OFF THE SYSTEM NOTHING WORKS!
SHUT OFF THIS DAMNED ALARM
HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE? KEEP THEM IN HERE, WHATEVER THE PRICE IS. GB4 MUST NOT GO BEYOND THIS BASE
HE'S CLIMBING INTO THAT SHIP
STOP RIGHT THERE!

KHAN
KHAN
DON'T THINK HE GO VERY FAR NOW
FINALLY THE AUTOMATIC RESCUE SYSTEMS ARE WORKING AGAIN
HOW CAN THIS BE POSSIBLE? KHAN SABOTAGED THE WHOLE BASE BUT WHY DID HE BETRAY US? HE WAS A LITTLE ODD, BUT BETRAYAL?! DON'T UNDERSTAND!
IT CAN'T BE IT CAN'T BE!


WE COULD HIT HIM ONCE MORE AND LEAVE
DON'T BE AN IDIOT! WE CAN'T ENDANGER THE WHOLE BASE! GET OUT OF THERE!
HAVE A NICE TRIP DOCTOR KHEM!

I CAN'T BELIEVE MY EYES! WE CAN'T POSSIBLY FOLLOW 200 SHIPS. WE'VE LOST THE Q84. WE'VE LOST IT!
REPRESENTATIVE IN SETTING A SIGNAL THAT I CAN'T UNDERSTAND. IT'S VERY STRANGE AND VERY CLOSE TO SUB BASE
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY VERY STRANGE? YOU MORON! CAN'T YOU BE MORE PRECISE?
41

ONE OF THE SHIPS IS STALLED IN SPACE NEAR SUB-BASE, AND IS TRANSMITTING A DISTRESS SIGNAL WHICH I CANNOT DECIPHER
GET A CLOSE-UP OF THAT SHIP!
IT'S POSSIBLE THAT IT'S PROPULSION SYSTEM IS BROKEN AND THAT IT COULDN'T KEEP GOING
IT MUST BE SOME POSTHUMOUS FORCE OF KHEN'S ANOTHER ONE OF HIS TRAPS
TRAP OR NOT WE MUST FIND OUT BE CAREFUL! THE OUTSIDE GUARDS ARE ENCIRCLING A SHIP WHOSE COORDINATES ARE DOTTY-VOOOM, SUB BASE AREA
SEND OUT A RECONNAIS SANCE SHIP IMMEDIATELY YOU MUST FIND OUT WHAT'S INSIDE THAT RESCUE SHIP
REAL YOU, IN A BOX?

THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE, SIR ! HAVE ANOTHER SIGNAL WHICH SHOWS THAT ENERGY ACTIVITY WITHIN IT IS INCREASING DRAMATICALLY WE CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY
DRAMATICALLY?
THE RECONNAISSANCE SHIP IS ON ITS WAY
GUARDS HERE WE ARE IN POSITION WE ARE MONITORING ALL THE EXITS
VERY WELL DON'T LOSE SIGHT OF ANY OF THEM WHILE WE CHECK WHAT'S IN THERE
ALL RIGHT SUB-BASE

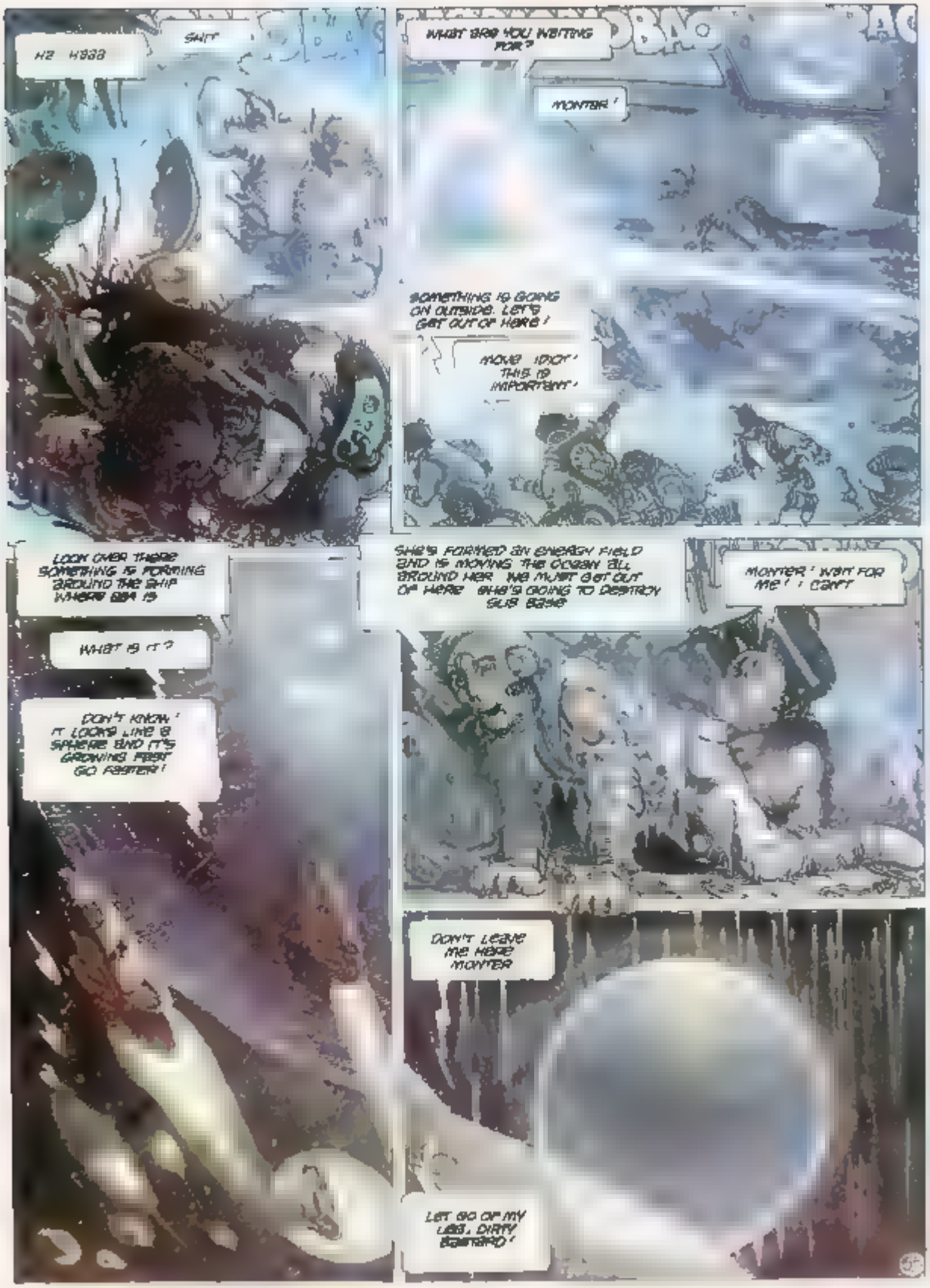
DO YOU REALLY THINK QBA IS IN THERE? REPRESENTATIVE GONCRE?
IN GOD'S NAME HOW SHOULD I KNOW! BUT DON'T WANT TO HAVE ANYMORE UNPLEASANT SURPRISES
MMMMM :? :?
WHAT'S UP? DO YOU HEAR THAT?
I'LL GO AND SEE REPRESENTATIVE GONCRE
WHO'S
I AM THE RESULT OF WHAT YOU BASTARDS CALL THE QBA
IT'S EXTRAORDINARY I CAN PERCEIVE IT RIGHT INSIDE MY BRAIN!
BE CAREFUL!!
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? GET THAT DAMNED SHIP AND COME BACK TO BASE!
BOARDING SHIP HERE WE'RE VERY CLOSE TO OUR OBJECTIVE
50

GUARD NUMBER ONE HERE SOMETHING DESTROYED OUR COMMANDS I ASK PERMISSION TO ATTACK!
NO, YOU IDIOT! I WANT IT TO BE INTACT! DON'T SHOOT! DON'T SHOOT!
Kiwi!
51

BY ALL SAINTS THEY'VE DISINTEGRATED
I'VE DESTROYED THEM BY USING TOTAL DISINTEGRATION
TOTAL AND INSTANTANEOUS DISINTEGRATION TO PUT IT SIMPLY.
HOPE YOU WON'T INTERRUPT ME ANYMORE
LOOK
WHAT IS IT ?
IT'S AN IMAGE IT'S THE CBA
IT'S A THREE DIMENSIONAL PROJECTION. OR SOMETHING LIKE IT
I'M GOING TO SHOW YOU HOW WHATEVER IS LEFT OF LEONE NOBAT COLLEEN SEGEN CYNTHIE CONNORS AND ESMERALDA MEGG HAS BEEN TRANSFORMED

AND WHAT'S MORE ... I THINK I HAVE TO SHOW YOU WHAT A SUCCESS GINA WAS BEEN. A TOTAL SUCCESS
FOUR SUPER BRAINS OF FOUR KRYMMILIN WOMEN UNITED IN ONE HAS PRODUCED ABSOLUTE POWER. WHAT YOU JUST SAW WAS A LITTLE TASTE OF IT
A POWER THAT IS HARD TO IMAGINE; NO ONE HAS EVER EXPERIENCED IT
THIS POWER, ALONG WITH FEELINGS OF ANGER AND HATRED CAN GENERATE SO MUCH ENERGY
THAT I CAN NOT ONLY MOLD MY BODY, BUT I CAN PROJECT MY MOLECULAR OR TEMPORAL STRUCTURE
IT'S INCREDIBLE! IF SHE DOMINATES MATTER SHE CAN DOMINATE THE UNIVERSE!
RIGHT

BUT WHAT DOES THAT CREATURE WANT WHY DID MONTER NOT ANTICIPATE THIS ?
WE HAD ANTICIPATED SOMETHING LIKE THIS, BUT WE DIDN'T THINK IT WOULD HAPPEN SO QUICKLY ISN'T IT FANTASTIC ?
SO, WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO ? VERY SIMPLY FINISH KHEN'S WORK
ALL PERSONNEL HAS SEVEN MINUTES TO ABANDON SHIP AND GET INTO A RESCUE SHIP ONLY YOU MY DEAR
REPRESENTATIVE BONCAR YOU WILL HAVE TO DO IT ALL BY YOURSELF IN TROUT YOUR HIERARCHICAL CHAIR
MONTER DO SOME THING !
YES BUT WHAT
TO ALL OUTSIDE PATROLS FIRE ON THE RESCUE SHIP !!
DON'T BOTHER WITH THAT, REPRESENTATIVE AS I PULLED THE SLAKH I ALSO DISCONNECTED ALL THE COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS NO ONE CAN HEAR YOU NOW
NO ONE WILL LISTEN TO YOUR STUPID COMMANDS ANYMORE WILL HELP YOU GET OFF YOUR THRONE
NO ! NO !

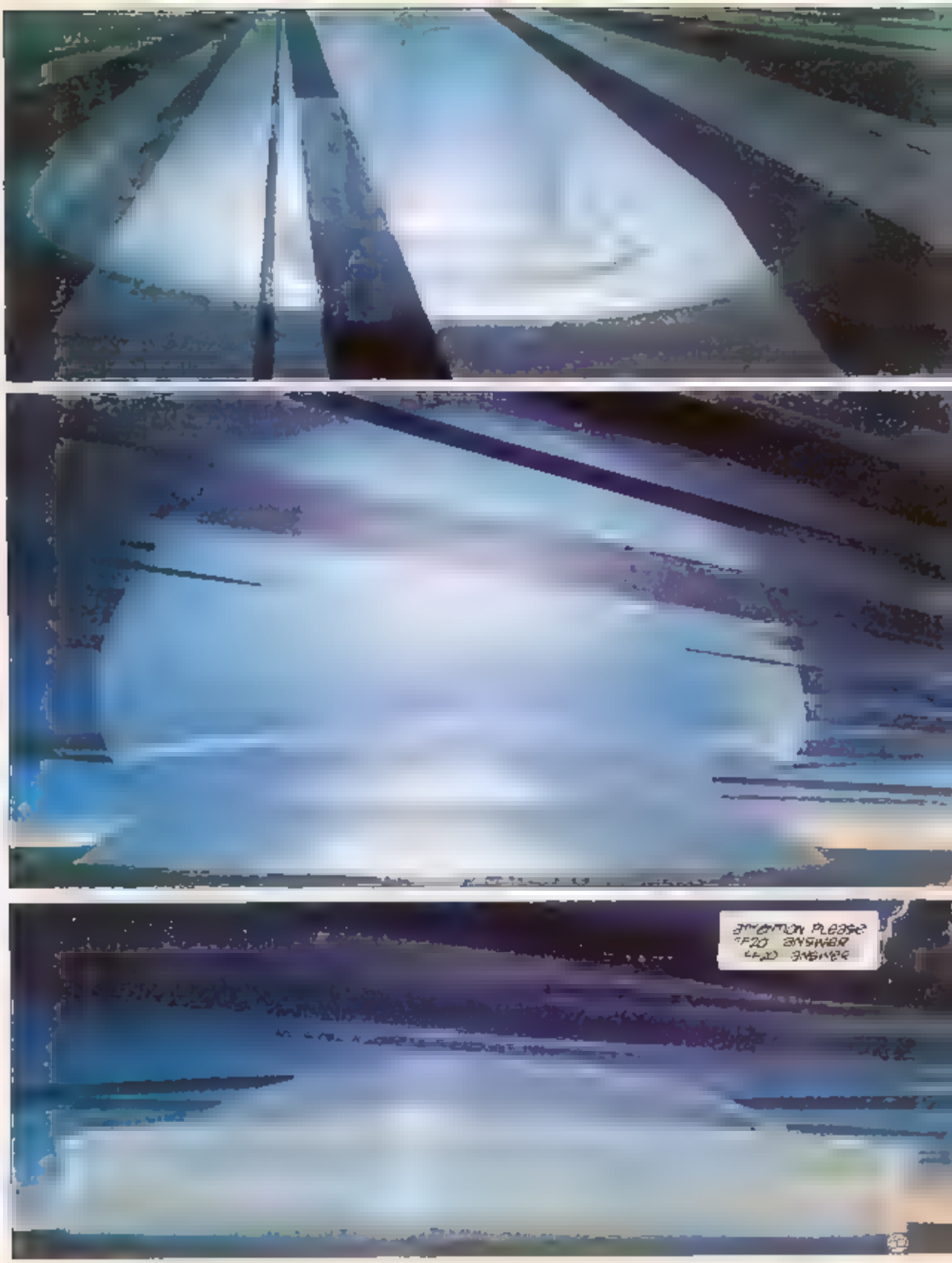

SHIT
H2 H3O
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?
MONTER!
SOMETHING IS GOING ON OUTSIDE. LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
MOVE IDIOT! THIS IS IMPORTANT!
LOOK OVER THERE SOMETHING IS FORMING AROUND THE SHIP WHERE GIA IS
WHAT IS IT?
DON'T KNOW! IT LOOKS LIKE A SPHERE AND IT'S GROWING FAST GO FASTER!
SHE'S FORMED AN ENERGY FIELD AND IS MOVING THE OCEAN ALL AROUND HER. WE MUST GET OUT OF HERE. SHE'S GOING TO DESTROY SUB BASE
MONTER! WAIT FOR ME!! CAPT
DON'T LEAVE ME HERE MONTER
LET GO OF MY LEG, DIRTY BASTARD!

I TOLD YOU TO LET GO, DIRTY BASTARD!
IF I HAVE TO STAY YOU.
AAAAH!
AHHHH! MY LEG! MY LEG!
FIVE MINUTES HAVE GONE BY

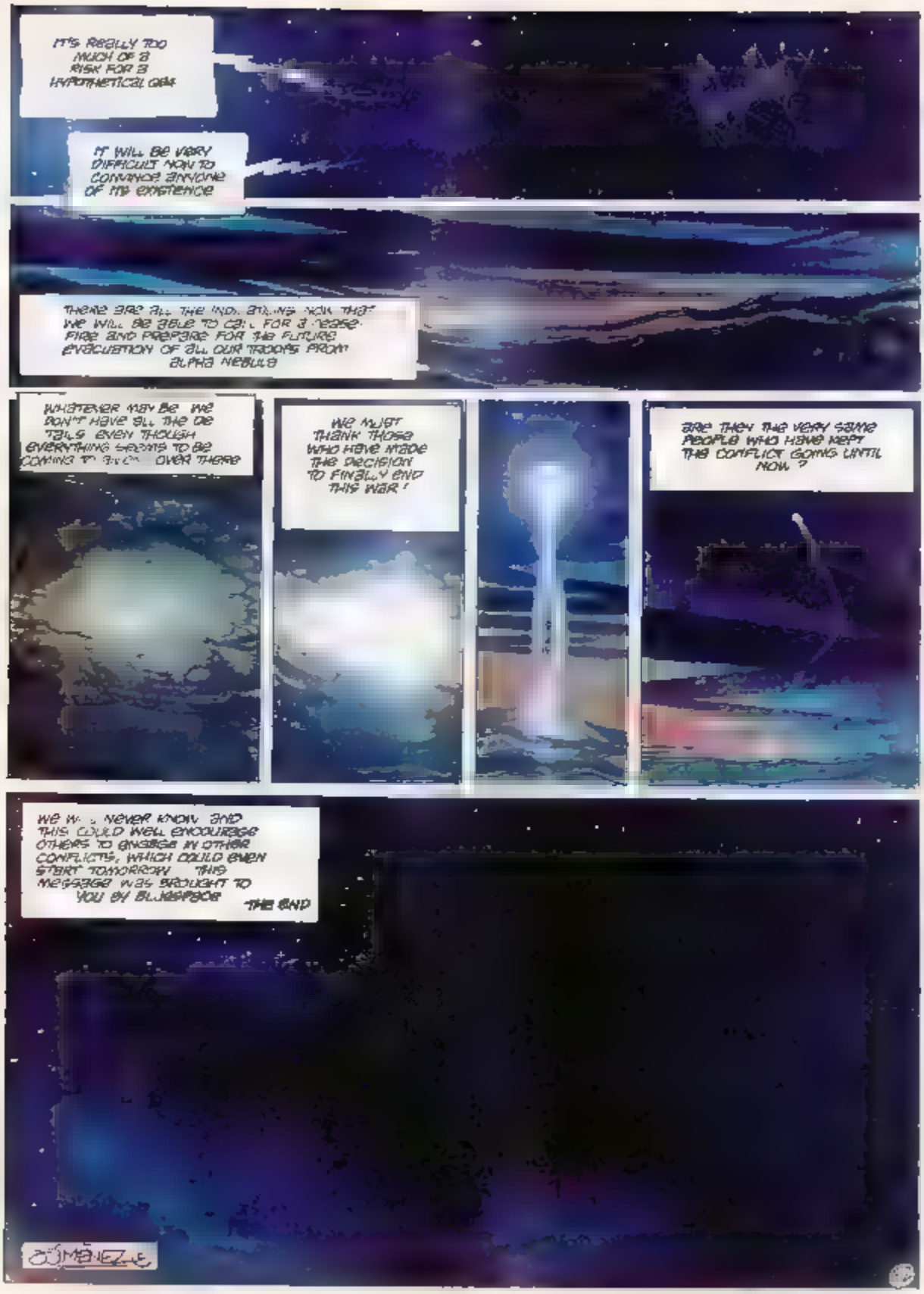
NO! NO! NO!
ISN'T THIS A GREAT SHOW?

YES! IT'S MAGNIFICENT! IT'S TOO BAD THAT THE LAST ACT MUST GO ON AND THAT THE CURTAIN WILL HAVE TO COME DOWN ONE LAST TIME

159


ATTENTION PLEASE
ATTENTION PLEASE

DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO SIR. CPU DOESN'T ANSWER
VERY WELL. WE HAVE WAITED TOO LONG ALREADY. KRONMIUN SHIPS ARE EVERYWHERE. I'M SURE IT'S BECAUSE OF THAT MEGA-EXPLOSION
IT MUST BE SOME ATTACK THAT TOOK PLACE IN THE DEPTHS OF SPACE
WE'VE NEVER REGISTERED ANYTHING LIKE THIS
I'M SURE FF20'S SILENCE HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH THIS EXPLOSION
IT'S POSSIBLE. BUT RIGHT NOW WE CANNOT VERIFY WHETHER THE COORDINATES OF THE TERRIBLE EXPLOSION ARE THE SAME AS FF20'S
SINCE WE'RE UNSURE, WE'LL LEAVE ALL COMMUNICATION CHANNELS OPEN. BUT I'M PRETTY SURE WE'LL HAVE NO NEWS OF FF20 OR OF GBA 9
PLOTTER WILL BE IN HOT WATER FOR A WHILE. HE GAVE HIMSELF AWAY AT THE HEAD OF A SUCCESSFUL OPERATION
WITH AN HONORABLE RETIREMENT AHEAD OF HIM


IT'S REALLY TOO MUCH OF A RISK FOR A HYPOTHETICAL GAIN
IT WILL BE VERY DIFFICULT NOW TO CONVINCE ANYONE OF MY EXISTENCE
THERE ARE ALL THE INDICATIONS NOW THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO CALL FOR A CEASE-FIRE AND PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE EVACUATION OF ALL OUR TROOPS FROM ALPHA NEBULA
WHATEVER MAY BE, WE DON'T HAVE ALL THE DETAILS EVEN THOUGH EVERYTHING SEEMS TO BE COMING TO AN END OVER THERE
WE MUST THANK THOSE WHO HAVE MADE THE DECISION TO FINALLY END THIS WAR!
ARE THEY THE VERY SAME PEOPLE WHO HAVE KEPT THE CONFLICT GOING UNTIL NOW?
WE WILL NEVER KNOW. AND THIS COULD WELL ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO ENGAGE IN OTHER CONFLICTS, WHICH COULD EVEN START TOMORROW. THIS MESSAGE WAS BROUGHT TO YOU BY BLUEBACK
THE END

A

Ranxerox T-shirt Made of 100% cotton with a reinforced neck. Deep armholes, extra body length and fullness. White with design in full color. **$12.95**

small medium
large ex-large

B

The original Heavy Metal T-shirt comes in red or black and is made of cotton-blend. The essential HM product. **$9.00**

___ small ___ medium
large ___ red black

C

SHOOOM! Rocco Vargas's manservant, **Samson**, and his little robot pal come alive on this new eight-color T-shirt. More coffee, Samson.

more coffee! **$12.95**

small ___ medium
large ex-large

D

Our latest and greatest product—the **Heavy Metal all cotton sweatshirt**. Wear it to the gym or to your fave dance spot and watch those calories melt away while maintaining your ultra-chic image. **$15.95**

___ small medium
large
black white gray

E

Heavy Metal's pride and joy, our silver, satin-like **jacket** equipped with a cotton lining, and front pockets, too. Hagar has a Stones '72 tour jacket. **$35.00**

small medium
large

F

Heavy Metal's phosphorescent T-shirt. This black all-cotton tee is available in sleeveless or regular style. Wear it to bed and you won't need a night-light to find your way to the bathroom. **$9.00**

small medium
large sleeveless
regular

G

From Torres's *Saxon* **THE FAN** is lost in a crowd and found on this two-color tee. **$12.95**

small medium
___ large ex-large

H

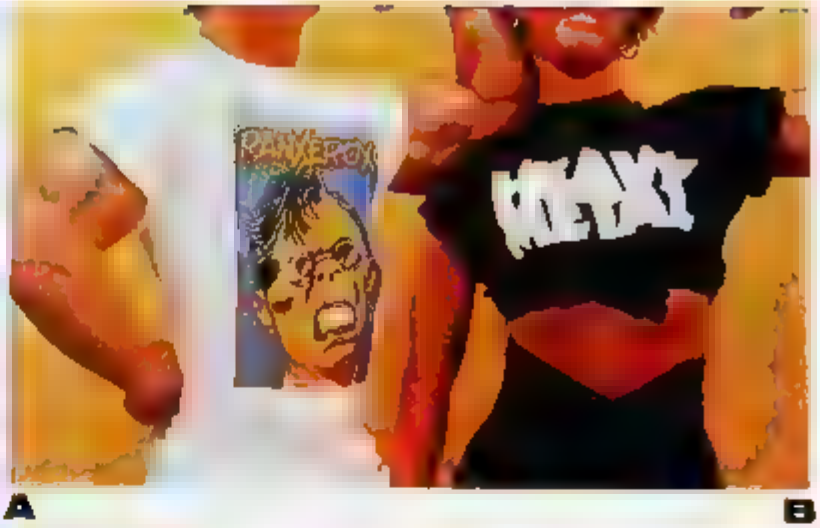
Beautiful splash panel from the exciting Torres series *Saxon*. **Rocco Vargas** dances all over your heart in this seven-color T-shirt. **$12.95**

small medium
___ large ex-large

I

Bami Wrightson's **Hanover Fists** and his never-do-well accomplice, **Cepia-n Sierra**. You've seen them in the magazine, you've seen them in the *Heavy Metal* movie, now see them coming and going. This durable four-color cotton **T-shirt** is a must for summer. **$9.95**

small medium
___ large



A B

C D

B E

F G

H I

PUT A HARD BODY IN A METAL SHIRT

You can now smack **Ranxerox's** pretty puss right on your lapel with this handsome **color pin. $6.00,** Includes postage and handling. Don't leave home without it!
← Ranxerox pin

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You don't have to have a perfect body to look spectacular in stylish, incredibly comfortable Heavy Metal leisure wear Be ready for anything in Heavy Metal T-shirts, jackets, sweats, and sweatshirts, and you never know what kind of hard bodies you might find close to your own.

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Check off what you like and how many you want. Include size and color. Add up what it costs. (Add 8 ¼% sales tax if you live in New York State.) Write a check or money order for the total, put it in an envelope with the ad and send it to.

Heavy Metal, Dept. T /90. 155 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10013

Name (please print)_____

Address _____

City _____ State_____ ZIP _____

Total amount enclosed $ _____

Signature _____

Credit card orders. Only on orders of $20.00 or more.

MasterCard#_____ Exp. Date _____

VISA#_____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____

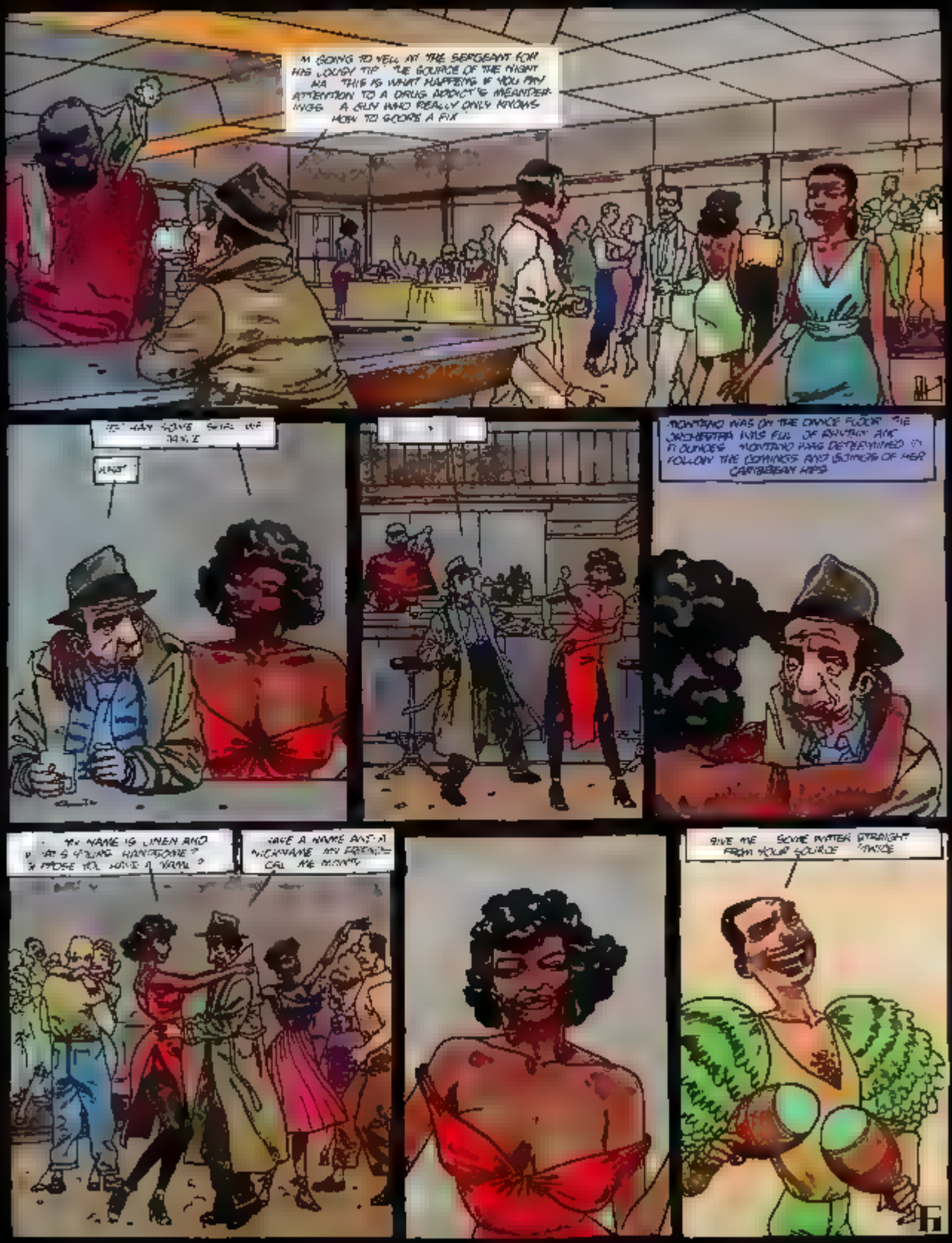
Please enclose $1.50 per tee-shirt for shipping.

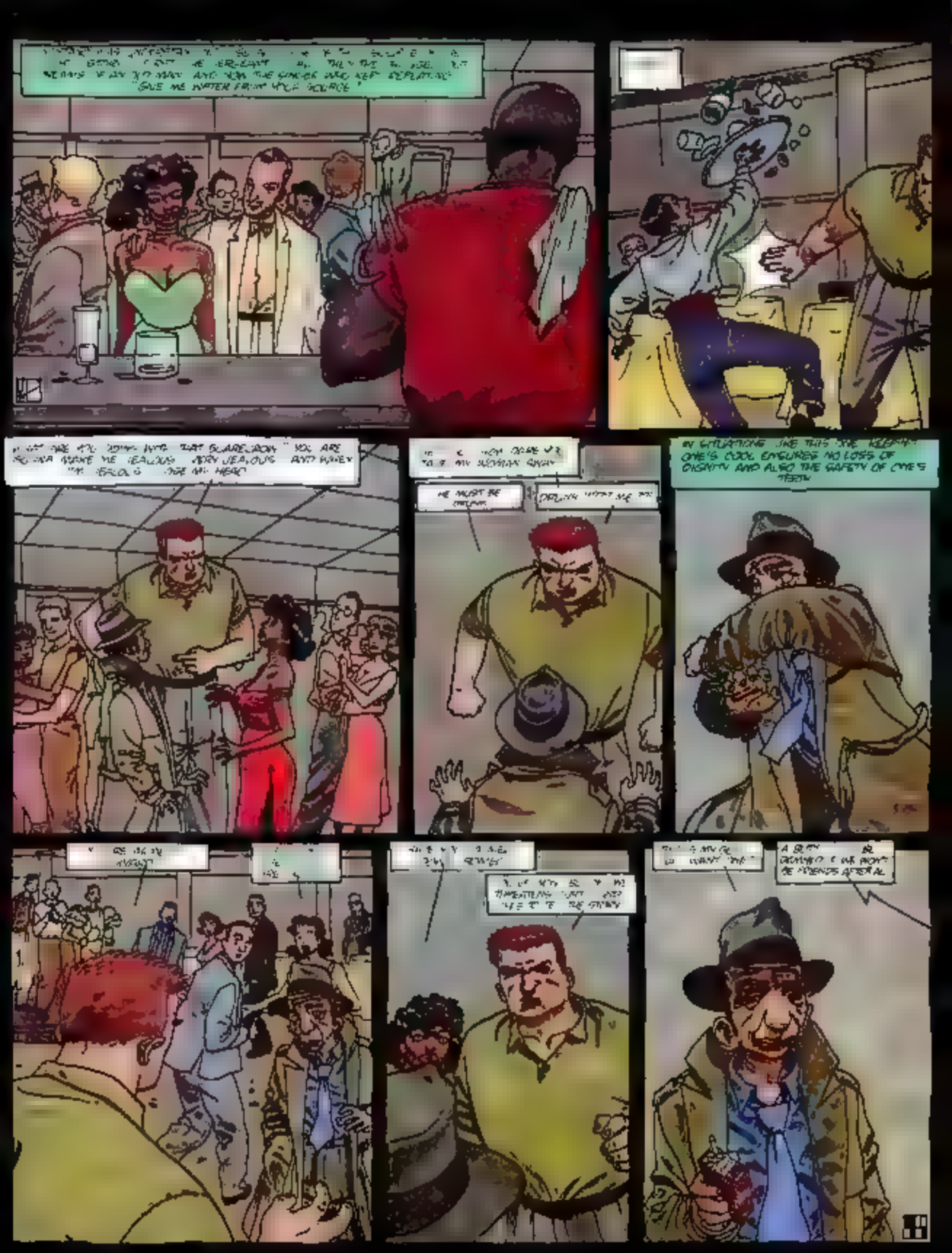
If you don't wish to cut the page out, but do wish to order, please print or type all applicable info on a separate piece of paper and enclose it with a check or money order. After all, you wouldn't take scissors to the Mona Lisa, would you?

Manuel Montano *Linen's Lipstick*

I SUSPECT SOMETHING IS NOT ENOUGH
A DETECTIVE WASH
HAVE
EVIDENCE !!
JUST AS SUSPECTED OKAY THE BIT
M'KAY, ARE YOU A YE "
MAN IT'S THE SERGEANT FROM THE NARCOTICS SQUAD WELL YES AM
SHE NITPICKING AROUND WE BARELY TRAVEL SOMEWHERE THE NIGHT WE WAS DELIRIOUS SHOULDN'T WE THE WHOLE BIT
OH YES? WELL I'D LIKE TO LISTEN TO YOUR LIFE STORY BUT HOW CAN HELP YOU ?
YOU'LL BE INTERESTED JUST LISTEN IT APPEARS THIS PERSON SPENT THE NIGHT TALKING IN HIS ALTERED STATE ABOUT A DAME HIS BABE MAYBE HIS DEALER ? KEPT MUMBLING THINGS LIKE PROFITERS POWDER WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK THIS GUY'S HOOKED ON ? GO TO THE CARIBBEAN CAFÉ AND CHECK IT OUT OKAY ?

THREEFINGERS THIS IS MOMMA
GRRWR ROWLAR FRARJAOW
WHAT'S HE TO A GUY'S MEMORY'S NOT WORKING GIVE ME A FEW MINUTES
WHAT DO YOU NEED SO MUCH MONEY FOR ?
HAVE TO SPEND A NIGHT ON THE TOWN NEED SOME FUNDS
YOU'RE CRAZY IF YOU THINK THAT I'M THE ONE WHO'S GOING TO PROVIDE THEM
SOMETHING WAS SAID
MOMMA? KNEW THREEFINGERS WEAK SPOT
PLAF


I'M GOING TO YELL AT THE SERGEANT FOR HIS LOUSY TIP. THE SOURCE OF THE NIGHT MA THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU PAY ATTENTION TO A DRUG ADDICT'S MEANDERINGS. A GUY WHO REALLY ONLY KNOWS HOW TO SCORE A FIX.
MONTANO WAS ON THE DANCE FLOOR. THE ORCHESTRA WAS FULL OF RHYTHM AND MONTANO HAD DETERMINED TO FOLLOW THE COMMANDS AND SIGNALS OF HER CARIBBEAN HIPS.
MY NAME IS LINEN AND WHAT'S YOURS HANDSOME? I'M THOSE TOO. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
I HAVE A NAME AND A NICKNAME. MY FRIENDS CALL ME MONTY.
GIVE ME SOME PUTTER STRAIGHT FROM YOUR SOURCE MAYOR



YES. WELL IF I MISSED HIM I'D BE [illegible]
I AM LOOKING FOR SAILOR AL BY BUT CAN DO THAT BY MYSELF DON'T WORRY I JUST WANT FOR A WALK
AND DON'T WORRY I'LL BE BACK IN TIME FOR THE [illegible]
NO, IT'S NO BOTHER AT ALL TO HAVE SISTER-IN-LAW OF MY BROTHER'S WIFE DOWN THERE WHO IS A SAILOR AND SHE NOW IN BANGKOK AND SHE TOLD ME BEFORE I MAKE SURE YOU PAY ME A VISIT AS SOON AS YOU CAN SO NOW I'LL GO AND SEE HER SHE'S A GOOD GIRL AND AN EXCELLENT COOK THE OTHER DAY MY BROTHER THE ONE IN BANGKOK NOT THE OTHER ONE THE VOLUNTEER ON
I HAVE TWO BROTHERS AND SEVERAL NIECES ONE KNOW SEVEN OF THEM THE OTHER WERE BORN AFTER I WAS AWAY FROM HOME THEN THE BROTHER OF MINE GAVE WITH ME AND TOLD HIM "OUR SISTER IN LAW MAKES A MEAN PAELLA BECAUSE NO ONE MAKE [illegible]
TO THEY AN OLDER BROTHER WHO WAS IN FRANCE [illegible] BUT DECIDED TO GO BACK AGAIN BECAUSE HE SAY "THOSE INSIDE LIVE MUCH BETTER THAN THOSE OUTSIDE. AS THEIR FOOD IS COOKED FOR THEM. RAPHAEL AN KID BROTHER HAS MUCH MORE SENSE AND HE WRITES IN A NOTEBOOK ALL HIS THOUGHTS. HE'S FILLED HALF A PAGE ALREADY THAT KID IS WORTH HIS WEIGHT IN GOLD OF COURSE HE'S VERY SHY. WELL, HERE'S YOUR ALLEY AND THANKS FOR THE COMPANY IT'S INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TO FIND ANYONE AROUND HERE WHOM YOU CAN TALK TO
[illegible]
[illegible]

OH NOW LET'S HAVE THAT VIAGRA WASHED DOWN WITH SOME OF THAT BILLY BEFORE SHE GET HERE
JAHHH' JAHHH!
WHAT'S THAT?
I TOLD YOU IF A SISTA DOES NOT LIVE ALONE
LIAHHHH!
HEY BABY DON'T CRY ALITE ALITE
LIAHHHHHHH!
SEE SHIP! HE'S GOING TO THE BATHROOM!
AIN'T THIS GOOD? AND WITH A LITTLE GRAPE JUICE TO BOOT!

"LOVE DON'T WAKE ME WHEN YOU LEAVE. THANKS FOR EVERYTHING. IT'S SO DIFFICULT TO FIND PEO PLE YOU CAN TRUST NOWADAYS"
AH YES. CAN KEEP THE HANDKERCHIEF THE LIPSTICK WON'T RUN
Fernando Barroso do Carm
Ferreira Silveira
Carnaval, 5. Jan
Brazil
DAWN BEGINS TO FILTER DOWN INTO THE ALLEYS. ON A BED ARE LYING, IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE, A TEDDY BEAR, A BABY, A MOTHER AND A LINGER
THE END

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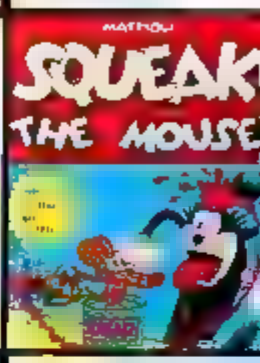

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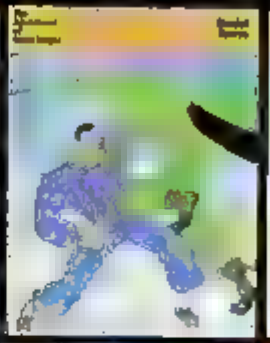

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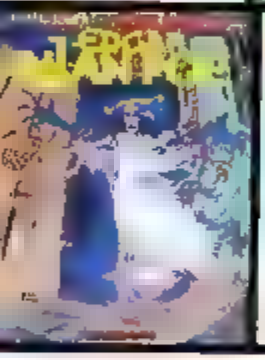

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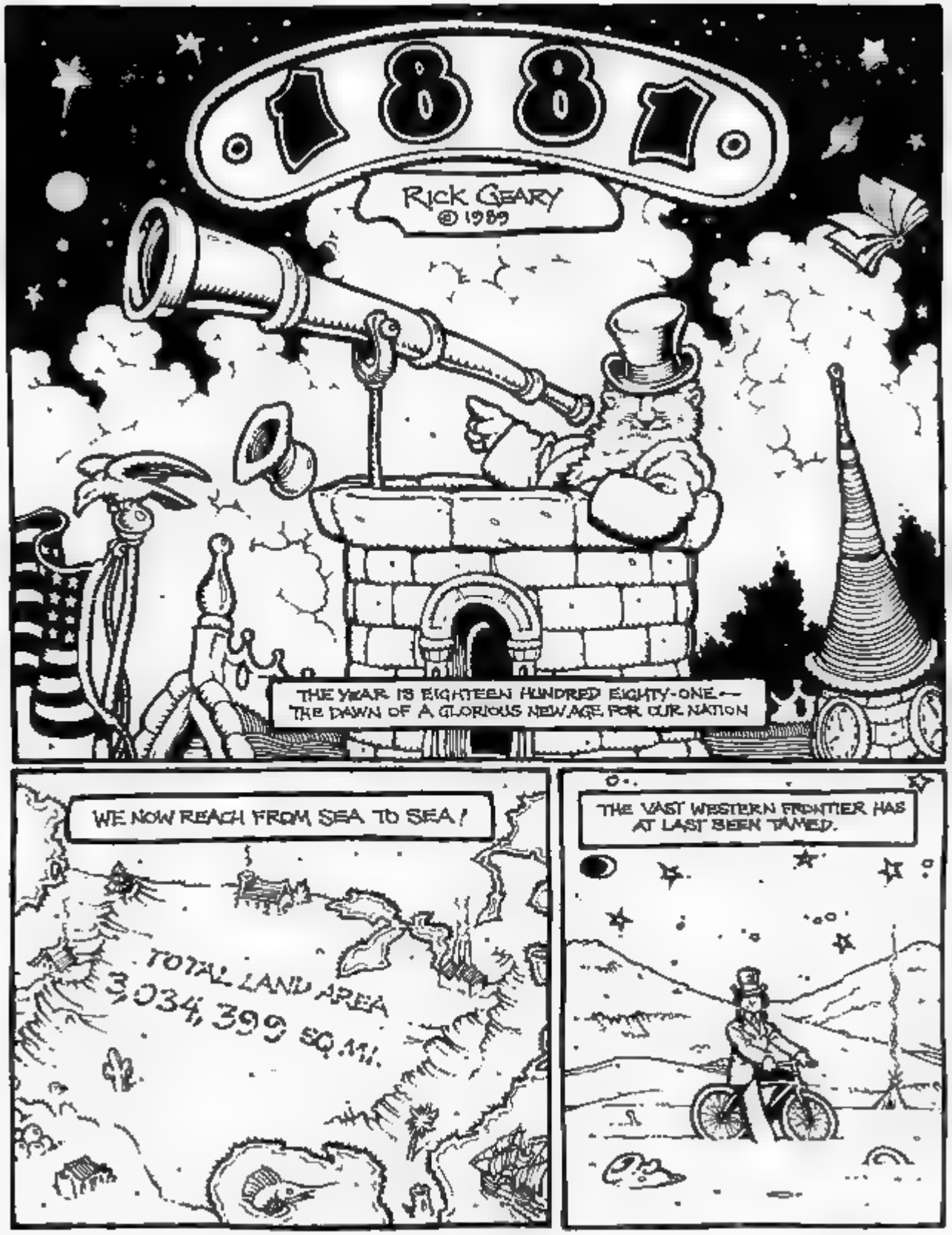
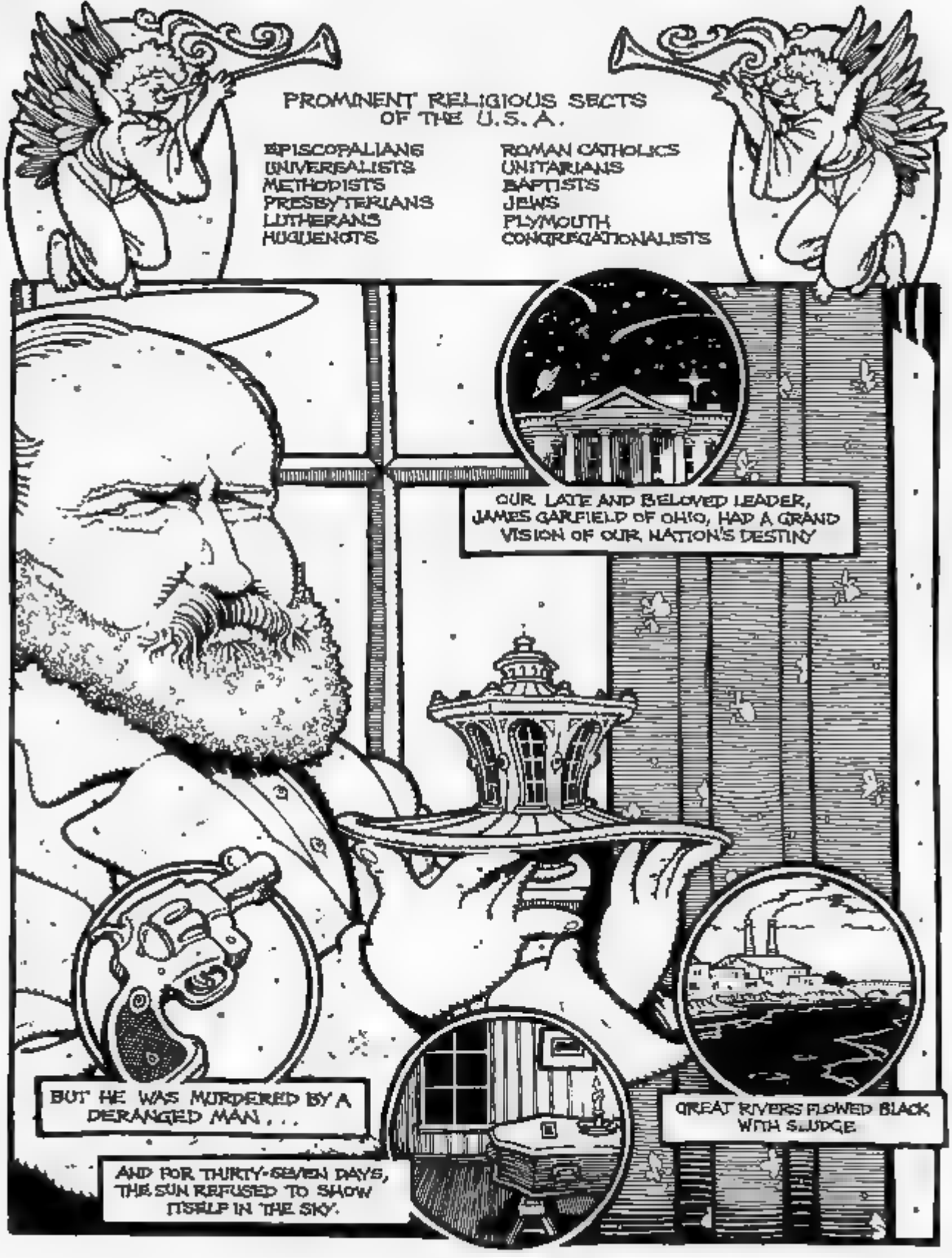
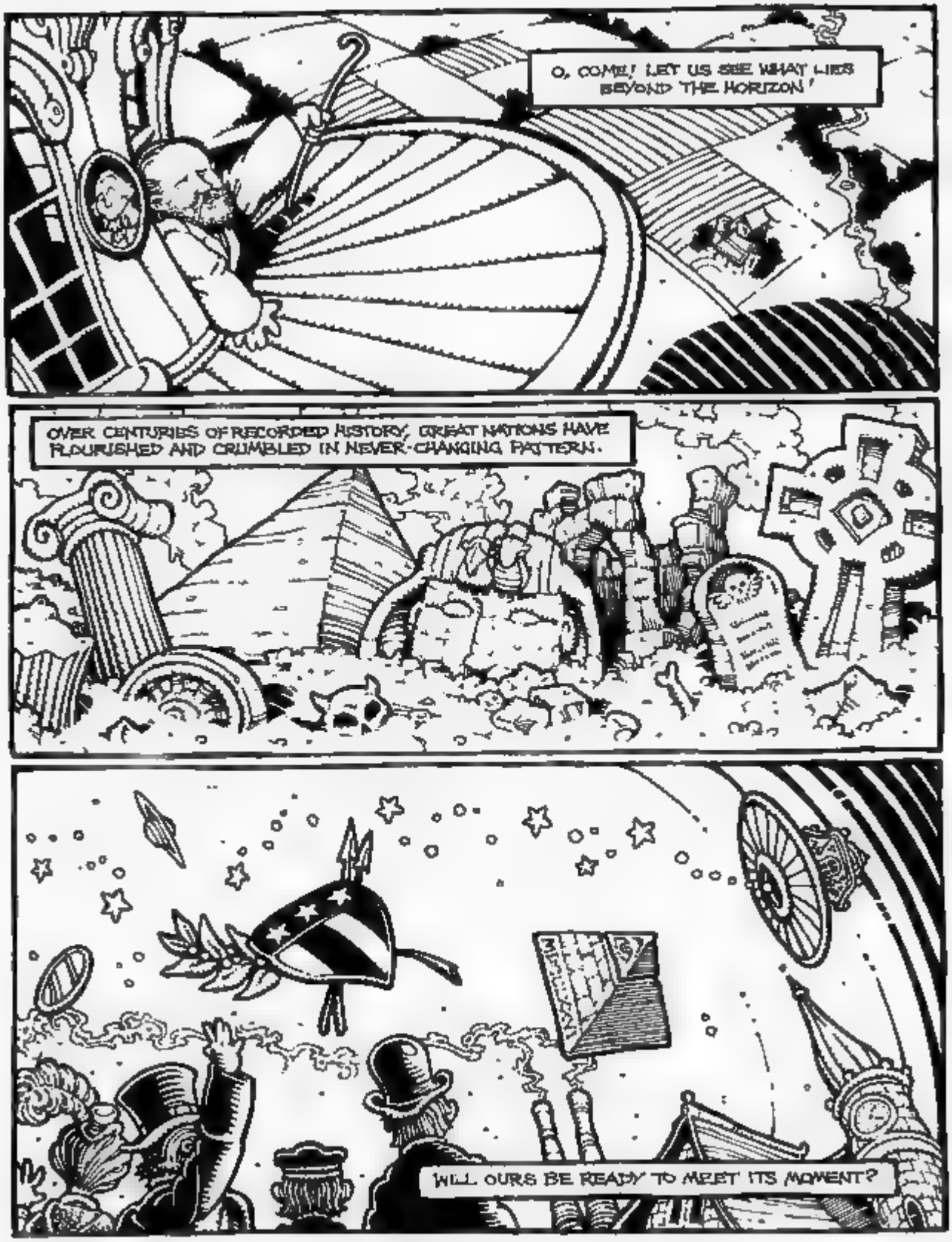

1881
RICK GEARY
© 1989
THE YEAR IS EIGHTEEN HUNDRED EIGHTY-ONE—
THE DAWN OF A GLORIOUS NEW AGE FOR OUR NATION
WE NOW REACH FROM SEA TO SEA!
TOTAL LAND AREA
3,034,399 SQ.MI.
THE VAST WESTERN FRONTIER HAS
AT LAST BEEN TAMED.

THE NATIONAL POPULATION HAS REACHED FIFTY MILLIONS!
AND NEW PEOPLE ARRIVE DAILY FROM ACROSS THE SEAS
IMMIGRATION INTO THE U.S: 719,000 SOULS!
TOTAL STUDENTS ENROLLED IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND HIGHER INSTITUTIONS: 9,900,000
COTTON
16,850,000 ACRES
YIELD PER ACRE: 3/8 BALE
CEREALS
135,045,675 ACRES
YIELD PER ACRE: 24 BUSHELS

WEALTH, SECURITY AND HAPPINESS ARE ENSURED FOR ALL CITIZENS!
TOTAL FOREIGN COMMERCE $1,675,024,318
IMPORT
(MERCHANDISE)
$612,664,628
(GOLD & BULLION)
$110,575,497
EXPORT
(MERCHANDISE)
$883,925,947
(GOLD & BULLION)
$14,226,949


PROMINENT RELIGIOUS SECTS OF THE U.S.A.
EPISCOPALIANS
UNIVERSALISTS
METHODISTS
PRESBYTERIANS
LUTHERANS
HUGUENOTS
ROMAN CATHOLICS
UNITARIANS
BAPTISTS
JEWS
PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONALISTS
OUR LATE AND BELOVED LEADER, JAMES GARFIELD OF OHIO, HAD A GRAND VISION OF OUR NATION'S DESTINY
BUT HE WAS MURDERED BY A DERANGED MAN...
AND FOR THIRTY-SEVEN DAYS, THE SUN REFUSED TO SHOW ITSELF IN THE SKY.
GREAT RIVERS FLOWED BLACK WITH SLUDGE


O, COME! LET US SEE WHAT LIES BEYOND THE HORIZON!
OVER CENTURIES OF RECORDED HISTORY, GREAT NATIONS HAVE FLOURISHED AND CRUMBLED IN NEVER-CHANGING PATTERN.
WILL OURS BE READY TO MEET ITS MOMENT?

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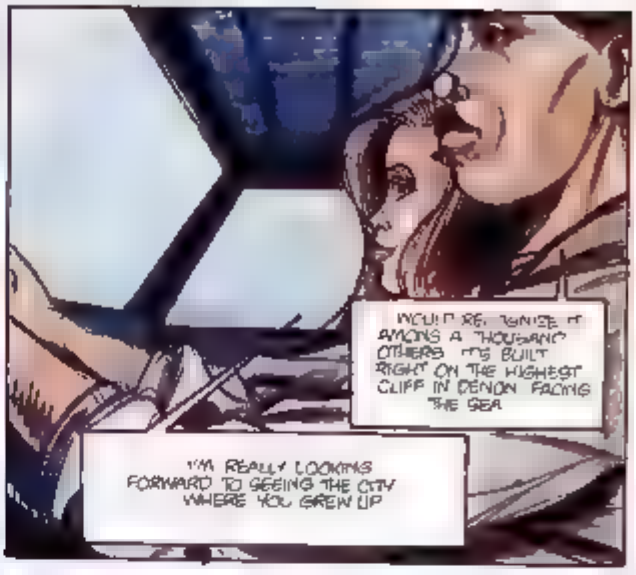
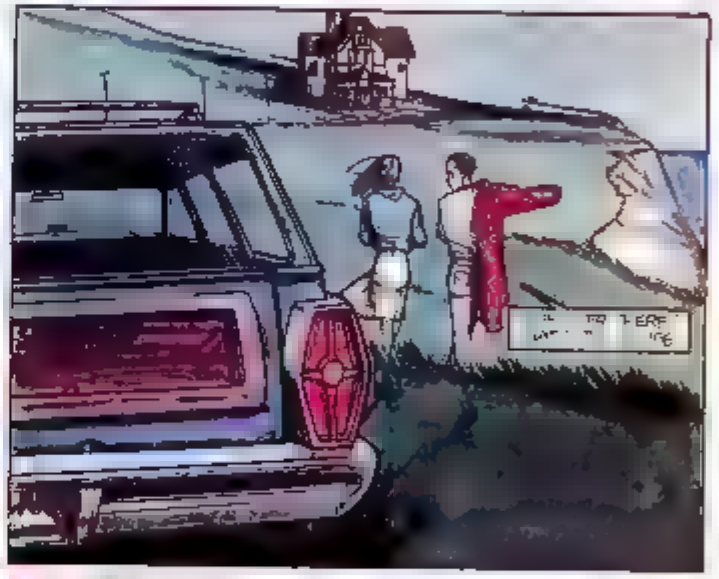
BACK TO THE SEA


I WOULD RECOGNIZE IT AMONG A THOUSAND OTHERS. IT'S BUILT RIGHT ON THE HIGHEST CLIFF IN DENON FACING THE SEA
I'M REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING THE CITY WHERE YOU GREW UP

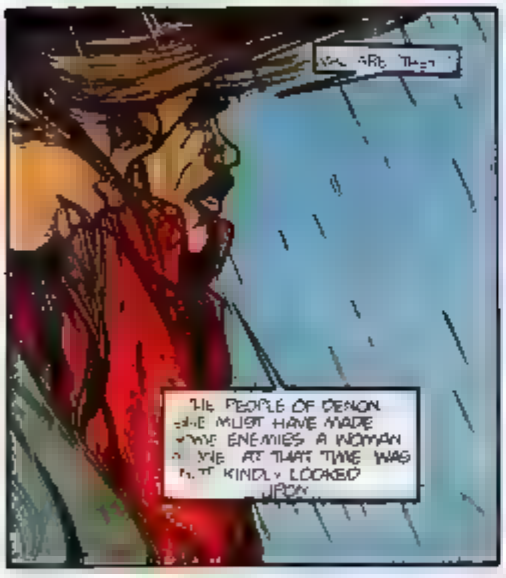


YOU MUST BE OUT OF YOUR MIND! I HAVE LIVED HERE FOREVER AND I HAVE NEVER SEEN YOU BEFORE
IT'S A LIE. THIS HOUSE BELONGS TO ME. I LIVED HERE WITH MY MOTHER YOU BASTARD

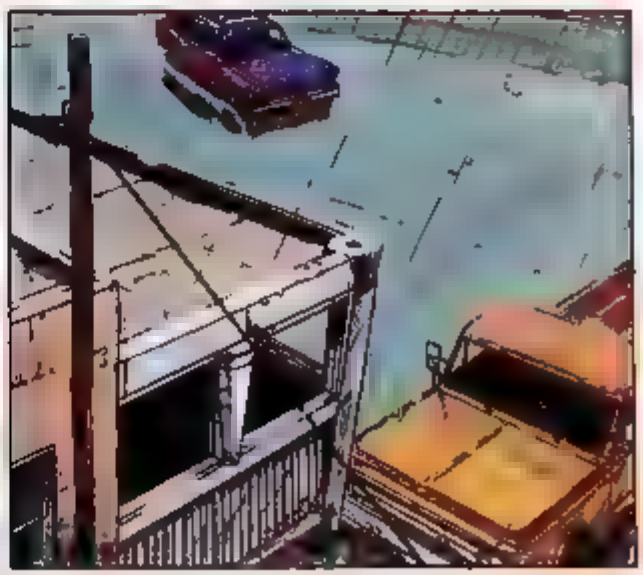
COME BACK WITH THE POLICE THEY'LL KICK YOU OUT!
ARE YOU LISTENING?
I WAS THINKING ABOUT MY MOTHER IT MUST HAVE BEEN DIFFICULT FOR HER TO RAISE ME BY HERSELF SHE DID ALL JOBS HERE AND THERE
THAT WAS OLD SAM'S BAR IT WAS THERE WHEN I WAS A KID WE USED TO PLAY COPS AND ROBBERS IN IT
I WAS ALWAYS THE ONE WHO HAD TO DIE GUESS WHO IT ROUGH WITH THE OTHER KIDS - YOU KNOW BECAUSE OF MY HANDS

COME ... I'LL SHOW YOU WHERE SHE'S BURIED. AFTER HER DEATH, I LEFT THE AREA. I WAS NEARLY FIFTEEN WHEN SHE DIED OF TUBERCULOSIS.

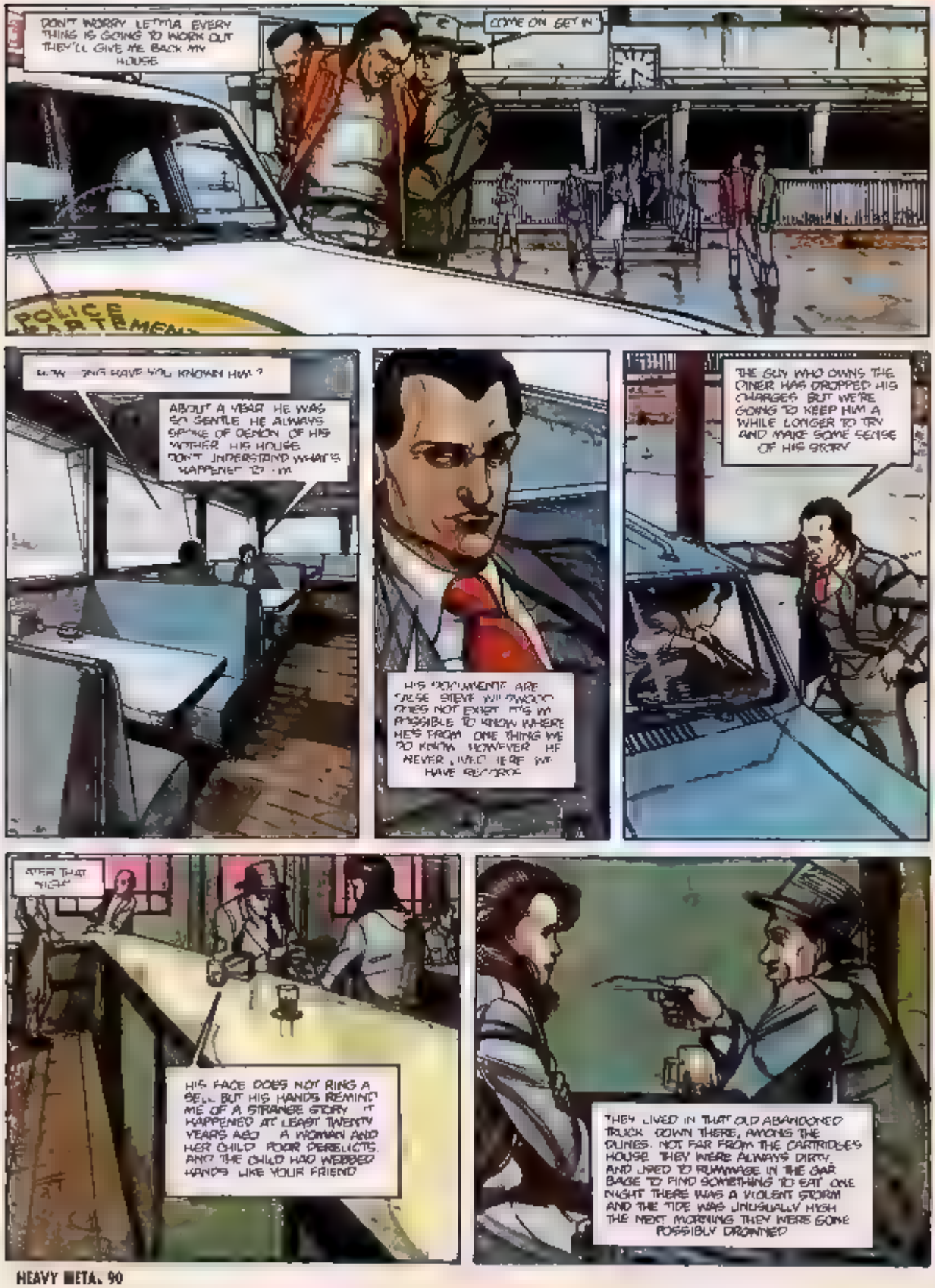
BUT THE GRAVE IS EMPTY, STEVE. THIS CEMETERY LOOKS AS IF IT HASN'T BEEN USED FOR A HUNDRED YEARS.
... BURIED ... BUT RIGHT HERE. THEY HAVE TAKEN HER AWAY. THEY HAVE VIOLATED MY MOTHER'S GRAVE.


WHO ARE THEY?
THE PEOPLE OF DEMON CAVE. MUST HAVE MADE SOME ENEMIES. A WOMAN ... SHE ... AT THAT TIME WAS NOT KINDLY LOOKED UPON.

LET'S GO SEE GEORGE. HE WAS MY BEST FRIEND. HIS FATHER OWNED A DINER IN THE CITY AND HE MUST HAVE TAKEN IT OVER.



HE'S CHANGED QUITE A BIT BUT GEORGE HASN'T CHANGED AT ALL. HE'S GOT THE VERY SAME FACE AFTER TWENTY YEARS
WELL OLD MAN BUSINESS SEEMS TO BE BOOMING DO YOU REMEMBER ME ?
[illegible]
[illegible] STEVE [illegible] HAPPY TO SEE [illegible]
I'M SORRY BUT I'M NOT GEORGE MY NAME IS MAX AN [illegible] KNOW IT
SHIT GEORGE YOU'RE AGAINST ME TOO MAYBE YOU WERE ONE OF THE BASTARDS WHO VIOLATED MY MOTHER'S GRAVE
HEY THIS GUY IS TOTALLY CRAZY ET GO OF ME ASSHOLE
BASTARD
CLASH!
STEVE WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU ?
WHY DID HE PRETEND NOT TO KNOW ME ?


DON'T WORRY LETTIA EVERY THING IS GOING TO WORK OUT THEY'LL GIVE ME BACK MY HOUSE
COME ON GET IN
POLICE
HOW LONG HAVE YOU KNOWN HIM ?
ABOUT A YEAR HE WAS SO GENTLE HE ALWAYS SPOKE OF DEMON OF HIS MOTHER HIS HOUSE DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT'S HAPPENED TO HIM
HIS DOCUMENTS ARE FALSE STEVE WILLIAMSON DOES NOT EXIST IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO KNOW WHERE HE'S FROM ONE THING WE DO KNOW HOWEVER HE NEVER LIVED HERE WE HAVE RECORDS
THE GUY WHO OWNS THE DINER HAS DROPPED HIS CHARGES BUT WE'RE GOING TO KEEP HIM A WHILE LONGER TO TRY AND MAKE SOME SENSE OF HIS STORY
AFTER THAT NIGHT
HIS FACE DOES NOT RING A BELL BUT HIS HANDS REMIND ME OF A STRANGE STORY IT HAPPENED AT LEAST TWENTY YEARS AGO A WOMAN AND HER CHILD POOR DERELICTS. AND THE CHILD HAD WEBBED HANDS LIKE YOUR FRIEND
THEY LIVED IN THAT OLD ABANDONED TRUCK DOWN THERE, AMONG THE DUNES. NOT FAR FROM THE CARTRIDGES HOUSE. THEY WERE ALWAYS DIRTY, AND USED TO RUMMAGE IN THE GARBAGE TO FIND SOMETHING TO EAT. ONE NIGHT THERE WAS A VIOLENT STORM AND THE TIDE WAS UNUSUALLY HIGH THE NEXT MORNING THEY WERE GONE POSSIBLY DROWNED

HEY! YOU THERE! WHAT'S THE MATTER?
THAT BASTARD! HE WAS LYING ON THE FLOOR IN SUCH A WEIRD WAY. HIS EYES GLAZED. CAME IN TO SEE WHAT WAS WRONG AND HE HIT ME
YOUR FRIEND HAS DONE SOME THING ELSE. HE HIT ONE OF MY MEN AND ESCAPED. THIS TIME HE'S REALLY IN TROUBLE
STEVE, WHERE ARE YOU?
STEVE!
STEVE WILDWOOD'S BODY WAS NEVER FOUND. HE DISAPPEARED MYSTERIOUSLY, JUST LIKE THE TWO PAUPERS WHO DIED IN THAT STORMY NIGHT A LONG TIME AGO IN THE GOOD CITY OF DEMON

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- ☐ **FALL 1986** / Bilal, Gimenez, Ortiz, Kierkegaard, and others
- ☐ **WINTER 1987** / Greg Hildebrandt cover, Daniel Torres, and Miguel Angel Prado
- ☐ **SPRING 1987** / Juan Gimenez's apocalyptic "Garbage," Daniel Torres, and others
- ☐ **SUMMER 1987** / 10th anniversary issue! Moebius, John Bandley's "Tex Arcana," Jeff Jones, Angus McKie et al!
- ☐ **FALL 1987** / Sexy Olivia cover! Segrelles, Rick Geary, Moebius, Torres, and more!
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- ☐ **FALL 1988** / Olivia on the cover and Crepax's "Valentina" inside!
- ☐ **WINTER 1988** / Segura's "Shanghai Express," Ajubel, Segura and Ortiz's "Hombre," and "Dexter Lumpen"
- ☐ **MARCH 1989** / Juan Gimenez's "Leo Roa," Prado, Breckpeter et al
- ☐ **MAY 1989** / The next moment of the planet Zark, Prado's "Manic Mechanic," Daniel Torres, Peter Kuper, and Olivia!
- ☐ **JULY 1989** / "Dexter Lumpen," Segura and Ortiz, M. Boyer
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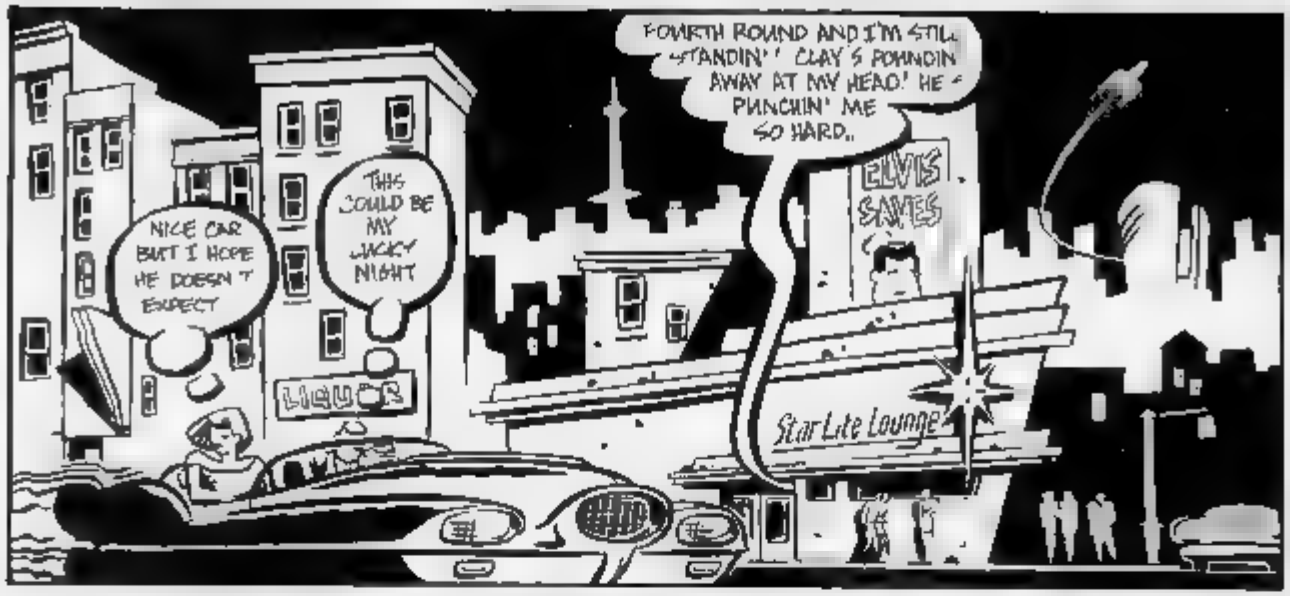
THE NEW FRONTIER
"THERE'S NOTHING FUNNY ABOUT MURDER"
SEALON TY 1983
HAHAHAHA
ELVIS
WE NEED A MEAT WAGON HERE AT LINCOLN AND LAFAYETTE
GOD' WHAT A MESS "
hMMM
I THINK WE ... NEED A SHOVEL FOR THIS ONE SIR
ZUZ ZOO
THE MAYOR'S GONNA HIT THE ROOF WHEN HE FINDS OUT
JOHN SABLIC
MICHAEL CHERKAS


NICE CAR BUT I HOPE HE DOESN'T EXPECT
THIS COULD BE MY LUCKY NIGHT
LIQUOR
FOURTH ROUND AND I'M STILL STANDIN'! CLAY'S POUNDIN AWAY AT MY HEAD! HE'S PUNCHIN' ME SO HARD..
ELVIS SAVES
Star Lite Lounge

IT'S MAKIN 'IM WHEEZE -
ARGOS
-TURN THAT UP WILL YA, STEVE?
ACE" IT'S BEEN TWENTY YEARS SINCE RUBI FIELDS DIED- AND TO MARK THE OCCASION, CASTLECORP IS SPONSORING ANOTHER "RUBI FIELDS LOOK-A-LIKE" CONTEST
"THE CITY'S PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONER WAS DISCOVERED BY CITY POLICE TONIGHT! MAYOR IVOR WYNNE HAD THIS TO SAY—
THAT'S THIRTEEN.
RUBI WAS THE DREAMIEST ACTRESS OF ALL TIME!

IT'S ONE THING TO BUTCHER TWO-BIT HOOKERS! BUT THIS IS PERSONAL! I WANT THIS MANIAC'S HEAD IN A BOX"

HUH? WHAT DID YOU SAY DUSTY?
AL JOE'S NEANDERTHAL GRILL
AND, ACE - FIRST PRIZE IS A TRIP TO KALAMAZOO!! NEAT-O
2.

THREE DAYS BEFORE
THE GLOBE
-- RIL BABY I'VE GOT TICKETS TO SEE BUDDY HOLLY AND HIS STRING QUARTET--
--SORRY, ACE, BUT THAT'LL BE THE DAY WHEN I GO SEE SOME WASHED UP ROCK 'N ROLLER --
--BUT, APRIL, IT'S NOT EVERYDAY YOU GET A CHANCE TO SEE BUDDY HOLLY LIVE, YET!
ACE! YOUR PLANE FOR MOSCOW LEAVES AT FIVE! DON'T BE LATE!--
-- AND, APRIL! -- GET DOWN TO CITY HALL! DISTRICT ATTORNEY JH TASKER IS MAKING AN ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT THE SLASHER/RIVIERA MURDER
HOW QUICKLY JUSTICE PREVAILS FOR CELEBRITY VICTIMS
MOSCOW?
BEACON CITY'S FINEST ARE TO BE COMMENDED FOR THEIR WORK
TASKER IS STILL DA ONLY BECAUSE HIS LIPS ARE GLUED TO WINNIE'S ASS!
-- THIS MORNING, POLICE ARRESTED A MR. IRV SKINNER -- A VAGRANT FROM TEXAS HE HAS ALREADY CONFESSED TO THE CRIME --
WHY DID YOU DO IT?
ARE YOU "THE SLASHER"?
ANY COMMENT MR SKINNER?
LET HE WHO IS WITHOUT SIN CAST THE FIRST STONE
3

JUDGE NOT, LEST YOU BE JUDGED
I DON'T UNDERSTAND -
-I MEAN THE WAY YOU ANSWERED THE POLICE..
DATE OF BIRTH- THE AGE OF AQUARIUS?
ADDRESS - TERRA?
!?
THAT'S CORRECT, MISS VALENTINE
WERE YOU TRYING TO BE FUNNY?
BURN THE SLASHER!! FRY 'IM!! HANGIN'S TOO GOOD FO-
FUNNY?
THERE'S NOTHING FUNNY ABOUT MURDER
4.

YOU NAME IT--THE RUSSKIES PAY MORE FOR IT!!
LIFE AIN'T EASY IN MOSCOW.. DAMN COMMIE BUREAUCRATS! ONE MINUTE STALIN'S BOYS SAY - "YES, YOU MAY SPEAK WITH 'COMRADE' HITLER" THEN THE NEXT MINUTE, IT'S - "SORRY BUT COMRADE HITLER IS TOO BUSY..
DRAWING THIS DAMN COMIC STRIP!
NAILS, FOR EXAMPLE ARE 75% MORE! AND CARPET STAPLES?--
NOBODY'S INTERVIEWED OR EVEN SEEN HIM - SINCE 1945.. AN INTERVIEW WITH HITLER WOULD BE A SUREFIRE PULITZER
?
-83% MORE! - IF YOU CAN FIND 'EM! SHOVELS RUN YOU A GOOD 67% MORE!! PAINT THINNER?-HAH!- 125% MORE!!
BOY - THREE WEEKS IN MOSCOW IS LIKE A LIFETIME IN HELL
SHIRTS?! YOU KNOW WHAT THEY PAY FOR COTTON SHIRTS?! GODAWMIGHTY OUTRAGEOUS!!
GOD BLESS AMERICA! ANOTHER ROUND OF MOLOTOV COCKTAILS!!
5.

SHORT
ACE! OVER HERE!

DUSTY— I'M JUST GOING TO SEE WHAT'S ON THE TV

THE SENTENCE CAME AS NO SURPRISE TO THE CROWDED COURTROOM.

MY OUTFIT FOR THE STATE FINAL OF THE MISS RUBI FIELDS PAGEANT!

MANY IN ATTENDANCE CHEERED LOUDLY AS JUDGE CRONIN CONDEMNED SKINNER TO DEATH BY ELECTROCUTION.
RUBI WORE THIS SAME OUTFIT IN "ANGEL FACE" - REMEMBER?
HOW COULD I FORGET?

DUSTY, I—
"...JUSTICE HAS BEEN SERVED" STATED DISTRICT ATTORNEY
—ACE CALL ME "RUBI" - JUST FOR FUN

OH SURE, "RUBI". MMMMM

THE NEXT MORNING..
- THAT'S RIGHT FOLKS, IT'S THE LAST WORD CONTEST' GUESS THAT DEMENTED MADMAN SKINNER'S FINAL WORDS AND..
HONK!
HONK!
BEEP!
BEEP!
HONK!
.. YOU COULD WIN BIG, BIG PRIZES." INCLUDING AN ALL EXPENSE PAID TRIP TO THE ELVIS PRESLEY SHRINE AT "MOMMALAND" - A RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE NOT TO BE MISSED." - AND I KNOW CAUSE I'VE BEEN THERE"
BEEP!
HONK!
BEEP!
HONK
DAMN! TRAFFIC
I... BE LATE FOR MY MEETING WITH KOVALESKY!
APRIL'S BOTCHED "THE SLASHER" STORY! YOU'RE TAKING OVER, ACE!
BANG!
LOOK AT THE CRAP SHE'S BEEN WRITING!
?!
"SKINNER A VICTIM OF FRAME UP" AND "TASKER ON THE TAKE?" HMMM..
THE GUY'S A BLOODY MASS MURDERER! SIMPLE EXECUTION IS TOO GOOD FOR HIM!
APRIL OBVIOUSLY THINKS HE'S INNOCENT
"OH, NO! PLEASE DON'T HURT HIM! HE'S A VICTIM OF THE SYSTEM!"
SUN

THIS IS WHAT I WANT! FOCUS ON HIS DEPRAVITY!
BEACON CITY
SUN
25¢
SLASHER TO DIE FRIDAY!
'NO REGRETS,' SAYS CONVICTED KILLER
SPORTING SHORTS
HOW HE DID IT:

APRIL VALENTINE - LINE SEVEN. APRIL VALENTINE LINE SEVEN
MARK KOWDYS LINE FIVE. MARK KOWDYS LINE FIVE.. KKKK!
I-IT'S ME A-AGAIN, M-MISS VALENTINE
YES?

MOLLY RIVIERA HAD TO DIE SHE WAS ONE OF THEM!
ONE OF WHOM?
YOU KNOW! - THEM!
IF YOU REALLY ARE "THE SLASHER" —

KKKK!! ART NIEMI LINE EIGHT ART NIEMI LINE EIGHT KKKK!!
- THAT'S NOT MY NAME I'M CLEANSING THE WORLD OF FILTH AND IMPURITY - CLICK!
WAIT!

APRIL, BABY, TURNED DOWN AGAIN?
HEY! I JUST CAME BY TO GET BRIEFED ON SKINNER
YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF NERVE I DO ALL THE LEG WORK -
AND YOU WALTZ IN HERE AND TAKE OVER AFTER A NICE LITTLE HOLIDAY IN RUSSIA!

HOLIDAY?! JUST GIVE ME THE LOWDOWN ON SKINNER.
HE'S NOT "THE SLASHER."
HOW DO YOU KNOW?
SO, YOU HAVEN'T MET HIM YET?
8.

SOON
PEACE BE WITH YOU FELLOW EARTHLINGS
DO YOU KNOW WHY YOU'RE HERE -
I AM TO BE SACRIFICED SO THAT OTHERS MAY LIVE
DO YOU RECALL THE TRIAL?
NO. BUT INTERDIMENSIONAL TRAVEL WILL DO THAT TO YOUR MEMORY
HAVE YOU EVER KILLED ANYONE?
WITHIN ANOTHER DIMENSION MY PARALLEL PERSONA MAY HAVE KILLED.
SO YOU ARE GUILTY?
AS DOUBTLESS WE ALL ARE.
IF WE COULD PROVE HIS WHEREABOUTS ON THE NIGHT OF THE MURDER-
-HAVE YOU TRIED CALLING MARS?
ACE?!
BEING CRAZY DOESN'T PROVE HE ISN'T "THE SLASHER"
THE TRIAL WAS A SHAM FROM DAY ONE TASKER HAD NO WITNESSES OR EVIDENCE HE CONVICTED SKINNER BY SPREADING LIES AND GOSSIP -- AND THE PRESS ATE IT UP!
I READ THAT AT AGE FIVE SKINNER EXECUTED ALL THE NEIGHBORHOOD CATS RED CHINESE STYLE -
-WITH A B.B. PELLET RIGHT TO THE BACK OF THE NECK
I'M GOING TO SEE TASKER TOMORROW WILL YOU COME WITH ME?
APRIL BABY HOW ABOUT A DRINK
9

WHAT'D I SAY?
WHY DO I EVEN BOTHER?
BAR
DID YOU HEAR MY FINAL SUMMATION ON TV, IVOR? IT WAS BRILLIANT—
—AS IF I GIVE A DAMN! TAKE A LOOK AT THIS JASKER
HOLY COW! SOME OF THIS STUFF IS SIGNED BY JOHNNY BATTISTO—THE MAFIA DON!
MOLLY SET THIS UP AS PROTECTION AFTER BATTISTO CROAKED IN '67
IF SHE WERE KILLED HER LAWYERS WOULD SEND COPIES OF THOSE RECEIPTS TO THE MEDIA!
THEY'RE NOW ON THEIR WAY TO ALL THE PAPERS
THIS TOSS YOU INTO HER BUSINESS!..
...YOU COULD BE LOCKED UP FOREVER.
DON'T YOU MEAN "WE", OLD SON?
W-WE?
I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE WITH A SKELETON IN THE CLOSET!
STOP THOSE DOSSIERS— OR YOU'RE GOING DOWN WITH ME!!
FOR THE $64,000 JACKPOT, MAVIS, WHO PLAYED RUBI FIELDS'S BOYFRIEND IN "SOME GIRLS HAVE IT" 2.
10.

WAS IT- WAS IT ELVIS PRESLEY? — YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY RIGHT MAVIS " AND MAVIS, BESIDES YOUR CASH PRIZE...
ACE WHAT'S A "COSA NOSTRA"?
"COSA NOSTRA"? IT'S LIKE THE MAFIA WHY, DIASTY?
IT'S IN THIS NEW BOOK ON RUBI FIELDS I BOUGHT TODAY-

.. YOUR JACKPOT INCLUDES AN ALL-EXPENSE PAID VACATION TO EXOTIC CROATIA !! OOOOH! AAAAH!
-SOMETIMES, DIASTY I WORRY — HEY! WHO'S THAT?
OH, THAT'S JOHNNY BATTISTO - RUBI'S BOYFRIEND I DON'T KNOW WHO THE INDIAN IS.

..PLUS, YOU WILL BE RECEIVING BY U.S MAIL, ONE DOZEN RUBI FIELDS WIGS!- OOOOOH!- AND A 1964 MODEL...
THAT'S MOLLY RIVIERA.
ACE LET'S ORDER IN CHINESE

THE NEXT NIGHT AT "THE STARLITE LOUNGE"
C'MON, ACE! - YOU KNOW I DON'T TALK ABOUT THOSE PEOPLE. THOSE TIMES —
- I WOULDN'T A[illegible] IF IT WASN'T IMPORTANT
OKAY I ONLY SEEN HER ONCE WITH HIM SHE WORKED FOR HIM.
DOING WHAT?

LOOK I MIND MY OWN BUSINESS. THAT'S WHY I STILL GOT ALL MY BODY PARTS
LIONS
STAMPS

20
20
OH WELL FORGET IT, ACE
10

OH, ALRIGHT. THIS GUY'LL TELL YOU MORE FOR A PRICE BUT YOU'RE LOONEY TUNES TO GO INTO THAT PART OF TOWN
11.

.. AND THIS IS THE LAST TIME I WANNA HEAR ABOUT THIS CRAP" DO YOU UNDERSTAND? DO YOU?—
I TOLD YOU'— MR TASKER IS OUT OF TOWN UNTIL FRIDAY
COME BACK HERE, YOU BITCH!"
YOU'RE NOT STOPPING ME!
—YOU CAN'T LET AN INNOCENT MAN DIE!!
SIGH
LADY! — DON'T YOU EVER GIVE UP?!
YOU SLANDERED ME FOR WEEKS!- CALLED ME AN "ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE"! -AND A "BLOOD-SUCKING GHOUL"..
.. CLAIMING THAT PSYCHOPATH IS AN "INNOCENT VICTIM!" —
—NOBODY BOUGHT IT THEN! I'M NOT BUYING IT NOW!
WHAT DO YOU GAIN BY SKINNER'S EXECUTION?
HEH-HEH .. IT'S TIME YOU WERE ON YOUR WAY MISS VALENTINE -
-M-MISS VALENTINE?
YES?
M-MY SON BRAD HE TRIPPED AGAINST THE BOOKCASE ... DIDN'T YOU, SON?
I-I I ...—
.. I READ Y YOUR COLUMN E EVERY-DAY, M-M-MISS VALENTINE
!!
12

MIDNIGHT - BEACON
KENNEDY IN 84
ELVIS HAS
"STEVE WAS RIGHT..."
JAN CHERRY'S
"... NOTHING BUT HARD CASES"
"KAFF KAFF, YA WANNA DRINK, BUDDY? KAFF KAFF"
"UH. NO THANKS"
"HELL' IT'S NO SECRET RIVIERA WORKED FOR JOHNNY B.. 'KAFF KAFF' ... SHE HIRED ALL THE FIRST CLASS DAMES FOR H.S V.I.P. PARTIES. KAFF KAFF"
"AND WYNNE, THE BASTARD, HE'D SKIM 25% OFF THE TOP. KAFF KNEW HE'D MAKE A GOOD POLITICIAN..."
"LATER MOLLY DID IT RIGHT FROM HER OFFICE AT CITY HALL HEH HEH... JOHNNY HAD CLASS. HE GAVE HER A HELL OF A PRESENT"
"UH-OH"
13.

MEANWHILE..
MISS VALENTINE? THIS IS ZEKE MULDOON.. Y'KNOW THAT SKINNER FELLA?
YES?
WELL HE'S INNOCENT ALRIGHT. HE WAS WORKIN' UP HERE IN CALGARY I WAS WITH HIM THE NIGHT RIVIERA WAS KILLED!
YOU'VE GOT TO COME FORWARD NOW, MR MULDOON!
SKINNER'S EXECUTION IS SCHEDULED FOR TOMORROW AT MIDNIGHT
OKAY I'LL MEET YOU.. AT THE BEACON CITY AERODROME .. TOMORROW AT 8 P.M.
SEE YOU THEN..
WE'LL HAVE JUST BARELY ENOUGH TIME—
RRRING!
H-HELLO, M-MISS VALENTINE.. IT'S M-ME AGAIN -
-HOW DID YOU GET MY HOME NUMBER?
I I KNOW WHERE YOU LIVE
—YOU'VE GOT TO STOP! ENOUGH PEOPLE HAVE DIED —
—DO YOU— DO YOU THINK I'M EVIL, M-MISS VALENTINE?
YOU NEED HELP.
M-MISS VALENTINE? A-APRIL?.. I-I-I JUST WANNA K-KISS YOU A-ALL OVER AND— AND —
SLAM!
RRRING
THAT WAS R-RUDE M-MISS VALENTINE.. Y-YOU REALLY DON'T LIKE ME D-DO YOU?
14.

OOOOOOH. WH-WHERE DID YOU?
STEVE HAD A GUILTY CONSCIENCE FIGURED YOU'D END UP WITH YOUR FEET STICKIN' OUT OF A DUMPSTER

ACE, YOU SHOULD NEVER WALK AROUND THESE PARTS FLASHING A WAD
C'MON LET'S GET OUTTA HERE
MY HEAD HURTS

VISITING OLD FRIENDS?
YOU KNOW HOW THEY SAID RIVERA'S DEATH BROKE THE PATTERN CAUSE SHE WASN'T A HOOKER
E, E

TURNS OUT SHE WAS A MADAME OF SORTS FOR THE BIG SHOTS — LIKE TASKER AND WYNNE —
— LEAVE IT ALONE ACE
YOU KNOW ALREADY?

THIS GOT SOMETHIN TO DO WITH THOSE NEW MURDERS?
WHAT?
SHOULDA BEEN SPLASHED ALL OVER THE PAPERS BY NOW — "SLASHER" TYPE MURDERS.

AND IN THE LAST MONTH I TOLD YOUR BOSS KOVALESKY WHILE YOU WERE GONE —
HUH?
THE POLICE COMMISSIONER IS CALLIN' 'EM COPYCAT MURDERS BUT FORENSICS SAYS IT'S "THE SLASHER" ALRIGHT.

WHAT KIND OF GAME IS KOVALESKY PLAYING? TAKE ME TO "THE GLOBE" —
UH-UH, PAL YOU'RE GOING TO A HOSPITAL FIRST.
5.

IVOR, I-I DID MY B-BEST... F-FOUR OUT OF F-FIVE'S NOT B-BAD
IDIOT! JUST ONE PAGE OF THIS DOSSIER CAN PUT HIS IN ALCATRAZ FOR THE NEXT TEN YEARS
I-I THINK THAT REPORTER'S ON T-TO H-HIM..
NOW I'LL HAVE TO PLAY BALL WITH THAT WEASEL, KOVALESKY!
.. H-HE'S BEEN C-CALLING HER.. SHE RECOGNIZED HIS V-VOICE..
DON'T GO CRACKERS ON ME NOW, TASKER
I-I CAN'T LET HER D-DESTROY HIM...
THINK ABOUT SOMETHING ELSE FOR A CHANGE
THINK ABOUT ME!"
EARLY THE NEXT EVENING
SORRY MA'AM, BUT THERE WAS NO PASSENGER ZEKE MULDOON ON BOARD FLIGHT 1531 FROM CALGARY -
DERSON CITY
-YOU'RE -SURE?
POSITIVE! BUT IF YOU'D LIKE, FLIGHTS TO KALAMAZOO ARE HALF PRICE THIS WEEK - IT'S OUR "SLASHER" SALE!
WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?
16.

SHORT...
ALL I CAN DO IS MAKE ONE LAS APPEAL TO THE GOVERNOR
MISS VALENTINE? ZEKE MULDOON'S OUTTA THE JOKER ISN'T HE?
45 of 8
ANGEL FOOD CAKE! THAT'S A GOOD ONE! YA SHOULDA HAD THE FRIED CHICKEN—
MMMCH MMMMCH!! GGRMPH!!
—YEAH! AND BAKED ALASKA FOR DESSERT! HAR! HAR!!
KINDA REMINDS ME OF THE DENTIST
YOU WAIT, IT'LL SMELL JUST LIKE ROAST PORK
HEH-HEH.. YOU WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND.. YOU DON'T HAVE CHILDREN - LITTLE BRATS!— DO YOU, MISS VALENTINE.. HEH-HEH.. BUT MY SON IS SAFE NOW FROM YOU AND OTHERS WHO WOULD DESTROY HIM.. HEH HEH HEH ZEKE HE SURE FOOLED YOU!
"THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD..
LET'S GO FINNY
"BLESSED ARE THEY...
17.

MY SON, HE FELT THAT IF HE "REMOVED" ALL TEMPTATIONS -- HEH HEH THAT ZEKE -- THAT I'D RETURN --
-- THAT I'D RETURN TO MY WIFE -- HE KILLED FOR LOVE AND HE KILLED FOR FAMILY MISS VALENTINE -

NOT MUCH LONGER
YOUR FIRST EXECUTION AGE ?

"THOUGH I WALK IN THE VALLEY OF DEATH..."
"... WHO SUFFER PERSECUTION..."

-I BLAME HIS MOTHER -- THE BITCH! -- TURNED HIM INTO A LITTLE PRUDE -- DRIVE FASTER MISS VALENTINE! -- SHE TOLD HIM EVERYTHING -- ABOUT MOLLY
"... ABOUT MOLLY AND ME. NOW THAT'S IRRESPONSIBLE "
SCREECH
AND SENDING AN INNOCENT MAN TO THE CHAIR ISN'T ?

"... AND I SHALL DWELL IN THE HOUSE OF THE LORD..."
RELAX, SKINNER YOU WON'T FEEL A THING Heheh!
LOOKS LIKE HE TAKES A SIZE SEVEN-AND-A-HALF!

SKINNER'S JUST A BUG ON THE WINDSHIELD OF LIFE --
-HIS DEATH GIVES BRAD A SECOND CHANCE- THAT'S WORTH THE LIFE OF A BUG OR TWO! --

ANY LAST WORDS ?
SP

-SAY GOODBYE TO ZEKE MULDOON, MISS VALENTINE!

DANGER! HIGH VOLTAGE
KBAM
ZZZZZTT
YOU'LL GET USED TO IT, ACE.
SEE? ROAST PORK!
GOOD LORD!
DID YOU HEAR?
HOORAY! SKINNER'S DEAD!
MAY HE ROT IN HELL!
THEY KILLED THE CREEP!
DID I TURN OFF THE HEADLIGHTS?
YOU'RE ASKING ME?
HAHA I'M HIGH!
HUMERCY
MARXISTS IN FAVOUR OF SKINNER'S DEATH!
THE BASTARD'S FRIED!
HE'S DEAD!! HOO-RAY!
JOHN WAYNE
HOO-RAY!
WHAT DO YOU THINK HIS LAST WORDS WERE?
19.

THE NEXT MORNING— KOVALESKY'S OFFICE AT "THE GLOBE"...
...THE CAUSE OF MR. TASKER'S SUDDEN DEATH AS STILL A MYSTERY... IN OTHER NEWS...
HOLY COW!
ACE!
...MAYOR WYNNE ANNOUNCED HIS RESIGNATION FROM CITY POLITICS. HEALTH REASONS WERE CITED...
GIMME THOSE PAPERS!
YOU COULDA NAILED WYNNE!
...AND LAST NIGHT AT STATE PRISON, THOUSANDS CHEERED...
I'VE GOT MY REASONS. BESIDES, IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU...
...AND THE LESS YOU KNOW THE BETTER—
...AS THE NOTORIOUS SERIAL KILLER, HEV SKINNER, BETTER KNOWN AS "THE MIDNITE SLASHER", WAS EXECUTED...
—MR. KOVALESKY!—
I'LL JUST PUT THEM IN HERE FOR SAFEKEEPING.
...DETAILS AFTER THIS...
—YOU COULD'VE USED THEM TO CLEAR SKINNER— AT LEAST GET A STAY OF EXECUTION!
ATOMIC
... CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?! TWENTY THOUSAND ENTRANTS...
APRIL, YOU'RE SO NAIVE.
ACE!
...AND NOT ONE CORRECT ANSWER! BUT THEN WHO COULD'VE GUESSED THAT SKINNER'S LAST WORD WOULD BE "FRIENDS..."?
GUESS WHAT!? I WON THE RUBI FIELDS CONTEST! WE'RE GOING TO KALAMAZOO!!
The End.

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